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The Tabloid says no to The First Wives' Club

Adam Mars-Jones Education+

24-page pull-out packed with higher education appointments



Comment John Walsh's **Diary**

British troops

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

Britain will send a military force to Zaire this weekend as part of a multinational operation to try to stem the refugee crisis, the Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said last night.

As many as 3,000 British troops will be sent as part of the 10,000 or 12,000 strong force, which would include elements from the United States, Canada, France and South Africa.

Speaking in Downing Street, Mr Rifkind said: "Such is the humanitarian crisis facing the people, the UK is prepared to play its part, including a military

Today, Mr Rifkind flies to armed groups. Paris for urgent discussions. Over the past two weeks with France, the US and Cana-da. Although the exact size been stalled in a vicious circle.

A long tradition

Zaire, it will be the interest de-ployment to sale Saleran Africa since the soil calonial conflict of the 1960s

this part of a long tradition of British intervention, bit one that is far from intervention sally successful. In 1879, the Zulu War broke out.

the British in Natal colony,

South Africa, and the pow-erful Zulu nation. 1,500

troops were massacred at Isandhiwana, but marg.V6s were won at Rorke's Drift. In the 1880s, the British sup-

ed to help deal with up to a million refugees, and not combat infantry. However, there is a strong feeling that if Britain does commit a force, it has to be big enough to look after itself, even as part of a multinational - and primarily Nato contingent.

The situation in eastern Zaire is much as depicted in. Joseph Conrad's Heart of Dark ness, a century ago. Zaire is a vast area the size of western Europe, the east of which is populated by more than a million refugees, including up to 40,000 Hutu Interahamwe, who took part in the genocide in Rwanda in 1994; rebel Zairean Tutsis or Banyamulenge; and other

and shape of the force still has with all the Western powers rewithout a clear UN mandate and a clear picture of that they would be going into. Spy satel-lites have proved useless in finding out what exactly is happening in the forested hills of eastern Zaire and who, exact-

ly, is fighting whom, and where. An estimated 1.2 million refugees are roaming the ravaged landscape. But without troops on the ground, there is no hope of finding out. Yesterday, there were reports of French planes circling over the Goma refugee camps, and that the Tutsi rebels in Zaire had fired on one, but the French de-

nied it.
"No-one knows what's hap-pening in the field. It's the rainy season and even American satellites are useless. Until we send scouts there, we won't know," one French officer said.

Units from Britain's Joint Rapid Deployment Force (JRDF), comprising 5th Air-borne Brigade, based in Aldershot and 3rd Commando Brigade, based in Plymouth, are always on standby to move to trouble spots quickly. But until yesterday, military sources said they had seen nothing in

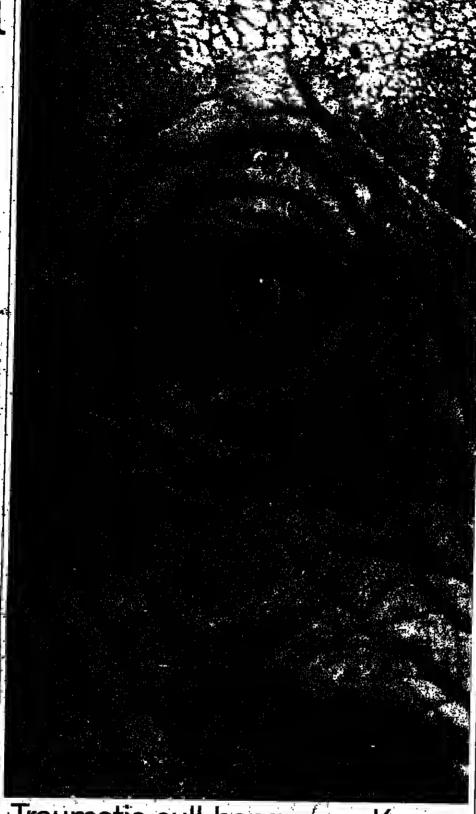
writing.
On Tuesday, UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali
confirmed reports that Canada had offered to lead a multinational military force into Eastcrn Zaire. He said he expected more than 12 countries to make up the Canadian-led force and hoped the US would provide air transport and supplies.

The US is expected to play I major role in providing transport and communications, and may provide ground troops. The Clinton administration is looking at contributing about 1,000 ground troops, adminis-tration officials said last night. Several thousand other US troops could be used in supporting roles. The White House was expected to make another statement last night. But US troops were already in Uganda yesterday, as part of a tour of the region to inspect airports

The United Nations Security Council was expected to meet again either last night, or today. In Paris, French officers said the first, 600-strong French detachment, which could leave within 24 hours, was from the 8th Marine Infantry Parachute Regiment, based at Castres, south-west France. The regiment has recently served in Africa and Bosnia. A second battalion, from the 3rd Marine Parachute regiment, could leave

and other facilities.

crease in managerial responwithin another 24 hours sibility and greater demands for US bows to pressure, page 10 success from supporters.



Traumatic cull hangs over Kruger

Nicholas Schoon

South Africa's National Parks board this week insisted on keeping open the controver-sial option of culling elephants in Kruger National Park after the annual shootings were suspended last year. The elephants had been shot each year since the 1960s to hold down their rapid population growth. Mean-while, animal lovers overseas argued that there was no justification and the slaughter severely traumatised the huge mammals, the

Africa. Now the board is reviewing its policies trying to decide whether a population higher than the park's current 8,000 animals is sustainable and whether taking elephants out of the park to other reserves, using different lat. I management methods in Kruger even contraception for female elephants can help. The review continues, but at a meeting with representatives of local communities, the board's Head of Research, Dr Anthony Martin-Hall, said culling must remain an option,

Soccer college for ashen-faced bosses

ence outside football, are now

eloquent communicators to

John Barnwell, the chief ex-

ian Burrell

Football managers cracking np under the strain of coping with the media, angry sup-porters and difficult players, are

to get professional help.
The League Managers Association is preparing an action plan to give managers training in psychology, physiology, busi-ness and time-management skills, and dealing with the

Players, junior coaches and others planning to go inte pro-fessional management will take the courses, which could he-come compulsory, at Lough-borough University from next season.

The courses are aimed at reducing the number of managers who, like Steve Coppell at Manchester City, quit after short periods in post in the face of organisational, communication and motivation prob-

It will also provide media training to improve managers' interview techniques so they can shed their "sick as a parrot, over the moon, game of two halves" image. The move follows an in-

ecutive of the LMA, said he hoped that the foothall management qualification would eventually become so well-estahlished that clubs would not hire anyone without it.

would be spread over one or ter prepared."

Managers, very often former two years and would be parttime. The scheme is expected to players with no work experihe funded by the Premier League, Foothall League and Football Association, with "stuexpected to conduct multi-million pound business deals, handle the psychological problems of highly-paid players, and be dents" paying a nominal fee themselves.

George Sik, a psychologist whose hook on football management, I Think I'll Manage. was published last month, said the continual publication of league tables created constant "There are very few jobs

where so many people know how well you are doing," he said. "The level of scrutiny of your every move is almost un-paralleled," he said. Mr Barnwell, a former manager of six clubs including

Wolves and AEK Athens, said: The game is changing rapidly and the role of the manager has changed from even five years ago. "The manager has got to develop inter-personal and

organisational skills, commu-

nication and motivational skills, they have got to learn bow to negotiate a deal and how to counsel people. "We have all been ill-prepared for the job we have gone into and we are trying to ensure He said the new course that future managers are bet-



continue to open up above the markedly in recent decades, probably because of extra exposure to sunshine on holidays abroad. In 2050, this can be exskin cancer cases a year came pected to reach 88,000, unless people reduce their exposure.

in yesterday's first report of Britain's new ultraviolet im-All three main types of skin pacts review group, made up of cancer have been linked with ulscientists and doctors. It is the first time the Government bas of cases are of malignant been given a figure for the likemelanoma, the hardest to treat. It appears to be associated with Dr Ann Webb, of the Uniintense sunshine in childhood.

versity of Manchester Institute The report says that the lifefor Science and Technology. time risk of skin cancer for tosaid the extra cases could be day's children will be 4-10 per avoided if people became more cent higher because of ozone aware of the risks and reduced damage. The increased ultravitheir exposure to sunshine by wearing clothes and using sunolet light is also expected to af-fect crops and animals, cream. But she warned: "Even plankton in the sea, and synif it's a cloudy day the ultravithetic materials like plastics olet will be higher than it would and paints, although it is not yet possible to gauge the level of be otherwise. Over a lifetime

you will increase your dose." There are estimated to be Each southern hemisphere about 80,000 cases a year at the spring for the past 15 years, most of the ozone over the moment. This number has risen

Antarctic disappears. These "ozone holes" have become deeper and wider - the laver is just now reforming over the South Pole after this year's breach - and in the past few years, holes have come close to

forming over the Arctic too. was a record low level of ozone in the atmosphere over Britain, and unusually high levels of ul-tra violet light for the time of vear were also measured.

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The most important ozone destroying chemicals are CFCs and HCFCs, used in refrigeration and air conditioning, and methyl bromide used in crop storage and horticulture. Although they have been, or will be, phased out, their combined level in the upper aumosphere is not expected to peak until early next century. Next week, of-ficials from dozens of countries meet in Costa Rica further to discuss the phasing-out process

QUICKLY

Nicholas Schoon **Environment Correspondent** Man-made damage to the earth's protective ozone layer will cause around 8,000 extra

skin-cancer cases in Britain each year, according to a gov-ernment panel of advisers, . These extra cases will be

among people who are now children. As they go through life,

they will receive an increased

dose of ultra-violet light in sunshine because of the thirming of the layer by industrial and agri-

The epidemic will occur even

though steps bave been taken

to curb these chemicals and al-

low the layer, located in the

stratosphere above 40,000 feet,

to begin healing itself. Scientists

are now forecasting that it will

be another 10 years, perhaps as

long as 14, until this recovery

process begins. Ozone holes will

Antarctic until the middle of the

The estimate of 8,000 extra

ly barm to the population.

next century.

cultural chemicals.

Fayed victory

The Fayed brothers, the owners of Harrods, won a victory against the Home Secretary when the Appeal Court ruled that he had been wrong to deny them both British citizenship while refusing to tell

Big jobless drop
A big drop in the number of
people claiming unemployment

heneft last month broght the prospect of the johless total falling below two million in good time for the general

Pilot 'blamed'

The mid-air plane crash which killed 351 people may have been caused by pilot error, ac-cording to officials studying taped conversation hetween the pilots and air traffic con-trollers in New Delhi. They show that both pilots acknowledged instructions to fly at varying heights.

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Antonio de Propinsione

In the 1880s, the British aupported the Egyptians in the ing to suppress an emission in Sudan. In 1885 the first tempt to relieve General Gordon, besieged in Knap tourn, failed. From 1899 to 1902, Britain fought the Boer Republic of Sauth Africa, and eventually Not an amillion troops. a million troops. in 1994, British troops were part of the UN force put into Rwanda after the genocide left at least 800,000 dead.

to be determined, the idea is to stabilise the situation and hand over to African forces after three months. The decision to commit

troops follows a meeting of the Cabinet's Overseas Policy and Defence Committee (OPD) yesterday afternoon, where Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, the Chief of Defence Staff, briefed the committee.

Sources stressed a force of this size would mostly comprise logistic support troops, engineers and medical staff, need-



Why beef-war poncing was put to pasture

Last summer, in the second agomes of the agricultural crisis brought about by the feeding of demented sheep to healthy cows, the Government discovered two main culprits.

They were (in order of their sins), the "right honourable lady, the member for Peckham" (Harriet Harman) - who had betrayed Britain by saying that she wouldn't care to feed beef to her children - and the perfidious Continentals. The latter, you will remember, weresupposedly forced into suhmission by the Government's policy of nun-cooperation, which preceded the Inter Governmental Conference in Florence. The ban, like previous wars,



DAVID AARONOVITCH

Since then, ministers have fallen silent in the House. Until yesterday, when Labour helpfully tabled its own debate on the handling of the BSE crisis. and just as thoughtfully supplied

Robin Cook to open it. Malcolm Rifkind, author of the Government's strategy, was not present to defend his policies. Perhaps he felt that, hav-ing had a tiring Global Vision stroying the bonhomie of the on Monday, it was only fair to let Agriculture Secretary Dou-glas Hogg be tortured to death by the Red Gnome of Liv-

ingston on Wednesday.

Mr Cook reminded the
House that Mr Hogg had promised a lifting of the ban in the back-end of the year". But, he asked, was December the back-end of the year? Or were we "looking down the front-end of another year?"

What had happened to the Policy Of Non-Cooperation in Europe (given the acronym of PONCE in the Foreign Ofposturing involved", he quipped. It had, of course been absurd - Danes, the Anglophilia of the French and the stolid good sense of the Greeks. "Previous govemments - including Tory ones have been sensible enough to ensure that either France or Prussia was on our side".

Mr Cook must know, however, that that era has gone. There is nothing and nobody over the Channel that the governing party admires these days. If one of those aliens who keep on anducting Birmingham housewives and probing them scientifically, were to desist for a day or so and come to the fice)? "A fitting term, given the Commons, he she or it would soon have a very particular

There, unemployed beggars line the crumbling pavements to watch the bloated bureaucrats (whose social chapters and minimum wages have destroyed their jobs), travel to meetings to discuss how to double-cross the British over something or other.

For instance, during Employment questions earlier, a minister had spoken of how the "French, Spaniards and Italians would be pathetically grateful" for part-time jobs, like those in Britain. We can expect the small boats, crammed to the gunwales with desperate Dons, to start arriving soon. Europe did indeed figure

when a pale Mr Hogg made his reply, which he did in a curious posture, crouching over the

mad tuft of grey hair, two pro-truding arms, and the reflection from his spectacles to be seen

But Mr Hogg was no longer scourging the EU, even when invited to do so by that cantankerous old xenophobe, John Townend (Con Bridlington). Mr Townend spoke of Britain "doublecrossed over beef, as over working hours", because they "enjoy taking British export markets". But no, said Mr Hogg. The member states were "facing strong internal pressures ... they do not appear to be in a position to agree to a

rapid lifting of the ban". So what on earth was the

significant shorts

Student guilty Hospital of stalking lecturer

A mature student stalked her former university lecturer, making his life a misery in a two-year venderta, after her sexual harassment claims. against him were disproved, a High Court judge ruled esterday.

Eileen McLardy was ordered not to "molest, harass or stalk" Dr Robert Fine, not to go within 200 vards of his home and to pay £5,000 damages to the senior lecturer for the "stress and strain" she had caused him.

The court had heard a 'catalogue of complaints' from Dr Fine that he had been constantly harassed and followed by Mrs McLardy and could no longer enjoy his home, his job, go swimming or walk his dog. Mrs McLardy, 50, had claimed all the incidents were coincidences and that Dr Fine was guilty of harassing

Foster heads capital project

The architect Sir Norman Foster yesterday won a aged couple who smoke competition to produce plans to make the tourist centre of London more "consumerfriendly". With a team of consultants, he will spend a year talking to everyone from tourists to taxi drivers who use some of the best-known parts of the capital.

He will submit suggestions for improving pedestrian and public transport access in and around Trafalgar Square,
Parliament Square, Whitehall
and Westminster Abbey. Half
The bench orde of the £250,000 project has been paid for by lottery money. It was commissioned by Westminster City Council, in conjunction with the Department of National Heritage,

Man 'drank to excess

Liver tests on a company executive showed "wildly excessive" drinking during a week-long husiness convention in Monte Carlo. the Queen's former physician, Sir Anthony Dawson, told the High Court

Sir Anthony was giving evidence for company physician Dr Georges Kaye, in his defence to a damages claim by TV sales executive Peter Baker, for alleged hreach of his duty of care to make a proper medical assessment of him when he applied for the £45,000-ayear post as head of

international sales with NBC Europe in 1991. Mr Baker, 53, of Great Bookham, Surrey, was headhunted for the NBC post Eurostar to and resigned from his existing job, only to be turned down at the last minute on the basis of Dr Kaye's assessment that he was a 'spree drinker" whose thought processes could be blunted by excessive alcohol.

Ulster tuned to Channel 5

Channel 5 yesterday announced plans for retuning thousands of homes in Northern Ireland. The channel begins work

on 5 January in an operation covering about 350,000 homes. Households supplied by the region's Black Mountain transmitter will receive a letter explaining the

suspends four nurses

The Royal Bolton Hospital. Lancashire, where health workers two months ago called for emergency management, has suspended four nurses after the death of a 20-year-old patient. An internal inquiry was launched last Friday when Michael Stocks, a recovering drug

addict, was found dead. The incident follows a catalogue of problems in Bolton Hospitals NHS Trust. In September, the health workers union, Unison. called for an independent public inquiry into the management and provision of mental health services after an auxiliary nurse, Shaun Darrock, was accused of

suffocating an elderly patient.
They also called on the Health Secretary to establish emergency management arrangements in the interim to restore public and staff confidence. Louise Jury

Cannabis couple freed

A chronically ill middlegreenhouse were conditionally discharged by

Bristol magistrates yesterday Keith Fordham, 51, and his wife Ruth, 49, smoked the illegal drug to combat pain they suffered from their illnesses. Both are on a daily dose of pills. Mr Fordham has a crumhling spine, asthma and emphysema. His wife has had cancer and has

The bench ordered that the couple, from Craydon Road, Stockwood, Bristol, should each pay £22 ... prosecution costs after conditionally discharging them for a year on their admission of cultivating the illegal plants. The British Medical Association currently has a working party investigating the therapeutic aspects of cannabis. It is expected to report next year.

£46,000 paid out by Met

The Metropolitan Police was forced to pay a mea £46,000 damages yesterday. A jury made the award to Terry Smith, 31, after accepting he was wrongfully arrested. Scotland Yard will also pick up costs estimated at £50,000. Mr Smith of Clapton, east London, claimed to have suffered Post Traumatic Stress Disorder since his ordeal seven years ago. He claimed he had been kicked, punched, and racially abused at the hands of five officers. Jason Bennetto

offer 'miles'

The high-speed Channel Tunnel Eurostar company yesterday launched a form of "rail miles" to reward frequent husiness travellers.

Passengers who often fly can curr advantage of airlines' "air miles" programmes, with stored miles put towards an eventual free flight.

Now, Eurostar, which operates 186mph services to Paris and Brussels from London's Waterloo Station, has opened a similar scheme to all customers who buy a return ticket or two single tickets in first or business class services. Eurostar also unveiled its new executive lounge. The Clubhouse, at Waterloo. It was officially opened by designer Sir Terence

Beef ban to stay, admits minister

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

The Government admitted tast night that there was no prospect of getting the export ban on British beef lifted for the foreseeable future, as it faced a right Commons vote on a Labour motion deploring its handling of the crisis.

Douglas Hogg, the Agricul-ture Minister, told gloomy Conservative MPs:"We are not going to get from the member states an absolute guaranteed timetable leading to dates when the ban will he lifted."

Northern Ireland MPs whose votes are critical while the Government has a majority of one - reacted with dismay after Mr Hogg admitted that ministers had not yet tabled "detailed working papers" to try to secure a lifting of the ban for certified BSE-free herds, fed mainly on grass, in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Mr Hogg said other European Union countries were

BARRY NORMAN

WALKED OUT

In this week's Radio Times, read about Britain's

longest running film critic.

How De Niro wanted to punch his lights out,

and what happened with Madonna.

Radiolimes

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU EXPECT.

"facing very strong internal pressure from their consumers and from their farming unions, stantial lifting of the ban.

"And therefore it seems to us probably that the hest way forward is to concentrate on the specialist herds and possibly on cattle born after 1 August.

Rohin Cook, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, who mocked Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, for failing to speak for the Government in the debate, challenged Mr Hogg over the Government's failure to secure a lifting of the han hy this month - as promised by the Prime Minister after the Florence summit

Mr Hogg found himself interrupted repeatedly by disbelieving Tory hackhenchers, many of whom were not rebels and not likely to vote against the Goverment, but whose obvious despair sapped morale on the Tory side of the House of



Sequel: Actor Sir John Mills admiring the English Heritage plaque he unveiled yesterday at 54 Eaton Square in central London. Vivien Leigh was best known as Scarlett O'Hara in Gone with the Wind Photograph: Kevin Lamarque

Ministers subvert Kent blight inquiry

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

A ministerial plan to influence a Commons inquiry into the Chaonel Tunnel Rail link, and deprive thousands of hlighted victims of compensation, was exposed last night.

Labour MP Brian Sedgemore said a leaked letter from the Transport Secretary, Sir George Young, showed a clear intention to deny compensation to people whose homes had been highted by the long-run-

ning rail-link saga. The letter reveals a proposal to exert political pressure on the all-party select committee that considered the rail link leg-

The Independent has learned

of embarrassing, closed-door exchanges hetween MPs on the select committee in October last year.

The committee was warned that a formal complaint of Contempt of Parliament would be made against Sir George, for consideration by the Speaker, unless he provided guarantees that he would not attempt to "nobble" the committee.

He provided that assurance. and the matter was dropped. But Mr Sedgemore said last night: "This is a contempt of Parliament, and an attempted fraud on the thousands of residents who live on or near the

planned route of the line. "That contempt lies at the heart of Government because no fewer than six Cabinet ministers were involved - the circulation list even included Michael Heseltine, Tony Newton, Leader of the House, and Chief Whip Alastair Goodlad.

In the letter, Sir George reported to William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury. that select committee recommendations delivered in July last year had added an estimated £150million to the cost of the £3billion rail link scheme.

"Where it has reached decisions or made recommendations which go to the protection of private affected interests, these carry special weight; we could not set them aside light-

He told Mr Waldegrave that in those circumstances, it would be "prudent" for himself and John Watts, the railways minister, to intervene.

The plan was to "indicate" to the Tory chairman of the Committee, Sir Anthony Durant, and his Tory deputy. Irvine Patnick, "that it would not take much more than the costs already added by the committee to tip the Channel Tunnel Rail Link project towards non-via-

hility...

"Kind words are due for Sir Anthony's handling of the com-mittee, but not for the indulgence of the committee's decisions north of the Thames," he said. And in a clear reference to the political pressure faced by the Tories, he added: "Our supporters in Kent cannot be

too happy.' Sir Anthony was in Paris and unavailable for comment yesterday. Sir Irvine did not return The Independent's call.

Jobless fall cheers Tories

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

A big drop in the number of people claiming unemployment benefit last month brought the prospect of the jobless total fal-ling below 2 million in good time

for the election.

The boost this prospect gives its re-election hopes delighted the Government yesterday. During the six months before the 1987 election, when the economy was at a similar stage of its cycle, the Conservatives improved their lead in the opinon polls by 12 percentage points, according to Mori. John Major yesterday pre-dicted that unemployment gle to make much electoral

would fall further. "You cannot guarantee falls of that sort every month. But that the trend is going down and is continuing to go down over the months ahead, I don't think there is any doubt," he said.

The Labour Party said the fig-ures lacked credibility when one in every five households of working age had no-one in a job. The continual pressures on JobCentres to reduce the number of unemployment benefit claimants also means that the headline figure understates true johlessness by around 150,000 compared with the definition official statisticians would prefer.

mileage out of the unemploy-ment figures at a time when the jobs market is so huoyant. The introduction of the Job Seekers' Allowance delayed the

processing of new claims and exaggerated the fall of 40,800 in the number of claimants in October, to 2,030,000, by up to 15,000. But even adjusting for that distortion, the figures painted a convincing picture of an improving jobs outlook.

The drop in unemployment last month was widespread. The jobless rate fell in all regions, with the biggest declines the South-east, London, the North-west, Northern Ireland and the West Midlands. The Scottish unemployment rate

fell to its lowest for 16 years and in Northern Ireland to the lowest for 15 years. It fell for both men and women and for all age groups. Long-term unemployment also declined. Other figures showed that

employment in manufacturing industry jumped by 13,000 in

September to return to its highest level for four years. The latest statistics for employment across the economy show the number in work rose by 210,000 in the year to August. Women's employment increased more than men's, and

most of the new jobs in the 12 months were part-time. Interest rate fears, Business, page 20

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Rank and file police reject freemason register call

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

Rank and file police officers are to fight attempts by chief constables for a clampdown on freemasons, describing the initiative as pointless and motivated by "political correctness". But senior officers argue that their desire to create a compulsory register of masons within the police was necessary and that they intend to push ahead

tober that existing freemasons in the police service should consider resigning from the so-ciety. They want the Govern-

ment to introduce a new law to make registration of masonic membership compulsory. The police chiefs believe the register should be publicly available. However the Police Federa-

bulk of the 126,000 officers in The Association of Chief Po- England and Wales, said yeslice Officers (Acpo) said in October that existing freemasons gretted" the Acpo proposals and said it was an "unwarranted interference with the private lives of police officers".

The Federation argued that there was little or no evidence to support the suggestions that officers had used their position as freemasons to enhance their careers or help out other socition, which represents the vast ety members.

The Federation argued that under the Acpo proposals offi-cers who refused to leave the freemasons would be victimised and their careers would suffer.

It added: "We will express our concern that those in command of Britain's police forces appear more concerned to portray a politically correct image than they are to safeguard the rights of police officers in a free society." But Paul Whitehouse, chief

constable of Sussex, and Acpo

issue, said: "Surely in this day and age the Federation, of all groups, cannot object to openness and transparency in the public service. "This was a decision of prin-

ciple taken by Acpo in both the public interest and the best interests of the Service.. We look forward to discussing the arrangements with interested parties, hut it must be said that, whilst respecting other

spokesman on the freemasons viewpoints, we do feel it necessary to take a positive lead on this issue."

The original proposal, made by Acpo's ruling council, will also affect membership of oth er secret societies such as the Catholic sect Opus Dei, an international organisation of ahout 80,000 members, and members of other organisations required to give "a bond of loyalty", such as the trustees





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New dawn for the al-Fayeds as Howard is ruled unfair over citizenship applications Citizen Pharaoh

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

Controversy over the attempts by Mohammed al-Fayed, Harrods' chief and government hete noir, and his brother Ali to obtam British citizenship was spectacularly re-opened yesterday with a surprise Court of Appeal ruling that the Home Office had treated them un-

fairly.
Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, immediately announced that he would take the case to the House of Lords, But if he loses there he will be forced to reconsider the Egyptian-born brothers' naturalisation applications afresh, first informing them of the areas of objection so that they can make representations against them.

While there was no criticism nf Mr Howard personally, the ruling is an embarrassing addition to a string of earlier court-room defeats for him.

In the two-to-one majority judgmem setting aside an ear-lier High Court decision, Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, said the rules of fairness required ministers in such cases to identify the areas causing them dif-ficulty in reaching a decision.

The Fayeds, who have lived in Britain since the Sixties and whose children are all British citizens, had "not had the

This is a victory not just for us, but for natural justice, fairness and openness'

fairness to which they are enti-tled and the rule of law must be upheld". Lord Woolf said. It followed that decisions in February last year to reject their applications for British passports had to be quashed so that they could be "retaken in a manner which is fair".

Posing with the Harrods' Father Christmas in a photocall after the ruling vesterday Mohammed al-Payed, chair-man of the Knightsbridge store and the elder of the two, said that he had lived "blamelessly" in Britain for 30 years. "This is a victory not just for my brother and me but for natural jus-

tice, fairness and openness."

It must be one of the few occasions on which the British estah lishment has come down so decisively on the side of the expansive Mr Faved who combines a refined lifestyle in Surrey and abroad with a penchant for "blue" expressions.

Lord Woolf was careful not to imply any criticism of Mr Howard as such in the Home Office's reading of the relevant law, the 1981 British Nationality Act, prior to the case reaching the appeal court. But justice had to be seen to be done "and it has not been done in relation

to the Fayeds". The heart of the matter lies at least as far back as 1985 when the brothers won the fabled battle with Lonrho's Tiny Rowland for the House of Fraser Group, if not their origins in a modest corner of Alexandria long before that. After the £615m 63, was pictured behind Harrods' meat counter in butcher's apron and straw boater. The Rowland campaign grew ever more bitter, culminating in a damaging Department of Trade

his citizenship application ap-



Mohammed al-Fayed, the owner of Harrods, who was treated unfairly by the Government in his bid for British citizenship, the courts said yesterday. Below, Mr Fayed with his arch-rival, Tiny Rowland; dressed as a pharaoh; and in the guise of a policeman Main photograph: Tom Pilston



parently stalled, went public over "cash for questions" and his former relationship with a Westminster lobbyist, lan Greer, recruited to tackle the barrage of attacks from the Lourho camp. Onc Tory minister, Tim Smith, promptly resigned; another. Neil Hamilton, was forced from office a week later and John Maand Industry report, eventual jor's administration was awash by published in 1990. with allegations of "sleaze". In with allegations of "sleaze". In By 1994, an angry Mr Payed, another broadside against the citizenship application ap-

Fayed sparked the controversy nver a stay at the brothers' Paris Ritz hotel by the former Chief Secretary to the Treasury,

Jonathan Aitken. As the hrothers' counsel, Michael Beloff QC, put it, their applications had been played out against a background of speculation that the eventual refusals. in letters described by the court as "terse in the extreme", were mntivated by "legally improper, purely political grounds".

But while Mohammed Fayed has clearly done himself no favours, he will not lightly relinguish his quest for citizenship.

There are practical reasons for the importance put by the brothers on gaining British passports in addition to their inng-standing permission to re-side here permanently – such as freedom from immigration con-trol, citizenship of the European Union and the right to vote and stand in parliamentary elec-

tions. But it is the intangible and symbolic significance that really matters - in particular the damning effect of having citi-zenship refused, apparently on grounds that they were not of "good character" since it was not in dispute that they complied with all the formal re-

quirements. From the Fayeds' point of view it was like being damned all over again on an identical

After two unsuccessful attempts by Tiny Rowland to get a Department of Trade and Industry inquiry into the House of Fraser take-over, publication of the report that was finally commissioned by the then Secretary of State, Paul Channon, and completed in 1988, was blocked on the ground that a fraud investigatinn might follow. Mr Rowland took matters into his own bands, by securing a copy of the report and publishing

an unprecedented mid-week editinn of the then Lonrhonwned Observer. When the scathing report was finally puh-lished a year later, the brothers, were described as the sons of a teacher of "humble origins" and branded as liars, about their family background, their early business life and their wealth. But to a chorus of parliamentary objections, the trade secretary, by now Nichnlas Ridley, said it would not be in the public interest to disqualify them as directors because there were nn public shareholders, and the brothers insisted the fact that no action was to be taken

treme" conclusions. The brothers contribute millions in the Exchequer either personally or through corporation tax, and are generous to charities, not to mention a £250,000 donation to the Tory party. But none of that, it seems, was going to count. By mid- in late-1994 alarm bells about the citizenship applications, lodged in January 1993 by Ali and Fehruary 1994 by Mohammed, began to ring in the Fayed camp. In a hitter blow, their attempt to get the DTI report censured by the European Court of Human Rights failed. But by October 1994 Mohammed had ensured that the

exploded the inspectors' "ex-

Mohammed Fayed will not lightly relinquish his quest for citizenship

major preoccupation of Government was news management. Amid the avalanche of reports in the days following the "cash for questions" bomb-shell, Mr Howard felt obliged to issue an unprecedented written statement admitting he had been consulted over the citizenship applications in April, and had requested the then Wardle to make "further inquiries". Officials had by then advised against the granting of passports. Nicholas Baker, the minister replacing Mr Wardle in a reshuffle, is understood to have then sought references

from the Bank of England. There was further embarrassment for John Major, who had astounded MPs by announcing he was complaining to the Crown Prosecution Service that Mohammed had sought to criminally pressurise the Government by sending an "inter-mediary" - Brian Hitchen, then editor of the Sunday Express to express his anger over the DTI report and the citizenship applications, and raise allegations against four Government ministers. The CPS duly announced there was no case to answer but there were fresh predictions that the applications were doomed.

In yet another twist, Mohammed's chief spokesman, Michael Cole, yesterday re-vived a connection between Mr Howard and his second cousin Harry Landy, who was a direc-lor of Lonrho and had sponsored Mr Howard's father when he came to Britain as a refugec from Romania. When allega-tions involving the link were first raised in October 1994, Mr Howard dismissed them as 'utterly ludicrous" and the "stuff nf pure fantasy" - and took nut an injunction against the Finnancial Times for good mea-

Record store plays fruit and veg

Nigel Cope

A leading music retailer is mnunting a one-man crusade against supermarkets whose aggressive move into compact dises and video tapes he calls a "smash-and-grah raid" on the market.

Andy Lown, head of Tower Records, plans to give super-stries such as Asda and Tesco a taste of their own medicine and next week will start offering cut-price fruit and vegetables at the company's flagship store at Piccadilly Circus, London.

Apples, bananas and oranges will be sold at knock-down prices for a limited period. They will compete for shelf space with Tower Records eclectic range which includes chart singles, Blues and Garage music as well as sections on

"Fetish" books and "Body Art". Mr Lown, who sports shoulder-length blond hair and leather jackets, said he recognised that he was risking retaliation from the superstores hut said it was worth it. "We're not exactly going to put Asda out of business are we? And chart music is not a major part of our sales. But I feel someone should make stand." He said he knew as much about fruit and veg as the supermarkets did about music: "It's a question of knowing your Bananarama from your Meatloaf."

In a stinging attack on the su-permarkets, Mr Lown said their cut-price campaigns might benefit consumers in the shortterm but warned that in the long run they would limit choice and stifle the creative development of new artists. "They take an aggressive view on price but they have no feeling whatsoever about the music. For them its just a way of selling more eggs and bacon. It's all about mar-ket share."

Retailers such as Tower Records worked with record labels to promote new bands and arusis while the supermarkets were only interested in cutting the price of CDs from established acts, he said. "It's like a smash-and-grab raid on everything we've created. The mar-ket for new bands could dry up. They [the supermarkets] have already moved into newspapers, magazines and post offices. What's next?"

Mr Lown expressed particular concern about Asda's VATbusters campaign two weeks ago where the stores sold all videos, CDs and other music ranges at VAT-free prices. The price of Simply Red's greatest hits CD was cut from £11.99 to £10.19.

The supermarket defended its prices. "Asda is committed to giving the best possible value across the range and the VATfree promotion is an example of that" it said.



Andy Lown: Taking a stand against bargain-price CDs

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Why should costs deprive Samuel of a safe treament for his illness?

Susan Emmett

Five-year-old Samuel does not flinch when doctors inject the plasma-based treatment he needs to fight haemophilia.

It is his father, Kevin Famill, who worries that Samuel is not getting the best and safest treatment and that is why they will both be attending a tribunal in London today that challenges a decision to impose value-added tax on a purer, artificial clotting

Doctors agree that recomhinant Factor VIII, a genetically engineered clotting agent, is purer and safer than the plasma-derived agent and preferable for treating children.

But it costs twice as much as the plasma-based treatment and a decision by Customs and Excise to impose VAT on the product this summer made it even more expensive for hospital to use. Dr Christopher Raper, the

consultant haematologist who treats Samuel at Kingston General Hospital in Hull, Humberside, said the treatment was too expensive to use at the

hospital.
"It's disgusting," said Mr
Farnill. "I cannot understand why they are not giving recom-hinant to everybody. It's the common sense approach."
Mr Faruili and Samuel, his

only son, have travelled from Hull to attend the trihunal along with other families from around Britain. They hope to see the decision to impose VAT reversed, mak-

ing it cheaper and increasing their chances of getting the Mr Famill fears Samuel is at risk of catching diseases such as

based product that he receives. But his greatest worry is that the clotting agent might contain viruses yet to be identified.

Around 3,000 out of 5,000 use is reported in France.

haemophiliacs in the country have been infected with Hepatitis C and two viruses, Hepaulus A and parvo-virus are resistant to all sterilisation tech-niques. "I wish I could say don't treat him," he said. "But at the time when you take him to hospital, he is in agony, you have no choice, you just have to

hope."
The Haemophilia Society says VAT is another obstacle preventing children from being reated with recombinant.

'I hope that they will take off the VAT said a spokesman. That will remove one harrier. It will not guarantee that it will be brought in but it will help." Dr Raper said the artificial

treatment was an advance and should be encouraged, espe-cially among haemophiliacs who have not had treatment or are only occasionally treated, as in Samuel's case

"I look forward to the day when all haemophiliacs will be on recombinant Factor VIII," said Dr Raper.

He added: "It is up to the manufacturers and the government to hring the prices down. In three to four years the cost will come down,

The decision in the tribunal hinges on whether recomhinant Factor VIII can be classified as a blood product. Human hlood, plasma-derived clotting agents, organs and milk and their products are exempt from

The human plasma-derived Factor VIII accounts for more than 90 per cent of the clotting agents used by the National Health Service, Haemophili-acs cost the NHS about £40m to treat annually and some doctors say the hill would double Hepatitis C from the blood- if recombinant Factor VIII was provided for all.

More than half of Factor VIII used in Germany is recombinant and a similar level of



Decision day: The life of Samuel Famill, 5, could depend on the outcome of today's case

Photograph: David Barr

NHS plan attacked as waste of money

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

The shadow health spokesman Chris Smith yesterday attacked the Government white paper on the NHS as "an abuse of civil servants' time" and a pre-elec-tion stunt aimed at boosting the profile of the Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell.

There is nothing in this White Paper of any real significance, no legislative proposals at all," he said. The document, costing £170,000 of the health budget, was a "blatant piece of electioneering material". Mr Dorrell denied allegations

that he was painting a rosy pic-ture of the NHS which clashed with the reality of bed shortages, cancelled operations, and a looming financial crisis in hospitals this winter.

Mr Dorrell said the white paper, called "A service with Ambitions", was intended as a vision of the NHS of the future. It was not intended to deal with "difficult short-term issues", he said, which will be tackled by the announcement of an extra £500 million after the Budget.

It was dismissed as heing

"full of good intentions signifying no new policy" by Liber-al Democrat health spokesman,

Simon Hughes, But the white paper does give a clear vision of the way the

NHS could develop.
It commits the Conservatives to funding the NHS from taxation, and insists that it is "affordable". But the limited resources available from the taxpayer will be allocated according to priorities.

Three working parties will be set up to investigate ways of providing more information for the patient, the development of health teams to break down barriers between hospitals and GP surgeries, and ways of measuring effectiveness of treatment.
Under the white paper.

given league tables listing the cessful hospitals and consultants according to outcome of treat-

The effectiveness of treatment will be one of the priorities for allowing care on the NHS. Health service managers may decide that some treatments are too expensive and not likely to be successful. Fertility treatment, may be ruled out on the NHS by manngers, unless their success rate improves.

In reality, patients are al-ready finding that the "national" health service is no longer offering the same cover across the country. Mr Dorrell said there was no "blanket" ban on IVF on the NHS but in some areas IVF is available on the NHS, in others it is not because

Hospitals are going deeper into the red, in spite of a statutory requirement to break even at the end of the financial year. They are hoping to make ends meet this winter with the promise of more money next

Dra

Figures by Hugh Bayley, a Labour MP and expert on health economics, show that the deficit of eleven trusts doubled during 1995-96 from £10.8 million to £19.4 million.

The Mid-Anglia community trust deficit rose from £44,000 to £119,000 in 1995-96; East Anglia ambulance service went from £68,000 to £998,000 deeper into the red; the deficit of the Royal National Throat Nose and Ear Hospital escalated from £826,000 to £3.5 million.

Other increases in deficits included the United Leeds Teaching hospitals, which rose from £334,000 to £6.9 million; Swindon and Marlborough, increased from £522,000 to £1.02 million; and Greenwich which rose from £2.8 million to £4 mil-

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Vaste

Blue pencil for sex and violence in BBC code

Media Correspondent

In response to what it said was a shift in moral values the BBC yesterday cracked down on gra-tuitous sex and depictions of violence in its new producer

The ring-bound booklet is supposed to be a bible for producers, advising on contentious issues, but the launch served a dual function in assuring the government that the corporation was reflecting its moral concerns. Last week Virginia Bottomley, the Secretary of State for National Heritage, criticised the amount of sex and violence on television. In a letter to the BBC she expressed particular concern about the emphasis on crime.

Some will see the guidelines as a victory for the Mary Whitebouse school of morals and as part of the corporation's hid to win an increase in its licence fee. A significant extra injunction warns: "For each of us, sexual activity happens after moral decisions have been made; its portrayal, therefore, should not be separated from recognition

Guidelines on violence have also been toughened. Producers are told not to concentrate unduly on the bloody consequences of an accident or terrorist attack, to avoid close-ups and not to show the dead unless there are compelling rea-

sons for doing so.

The guidelines say there are almost no circumstances in which it would be justified to show an execution, a shift from those issued three years ago, which said there were "very few" such occasions. The wording is a rebuff for Martin Bell, the foreign correspondent, who has argued that news programmes are sanitising wars by not showing the true horror. The booklet says: "Editing out the bloodiest scenes need not result in a sanitised version of events. A good script is vital in conveying the reality of tragedy."

The section covering swear words has also been strengthened to make their use more in-

"Deep offence will ... be caused by profane references or disrespect, whether verbal or visual, directed at matters which are at the heart of various religions," the booklet warns, said,

"Blasphemy is a criminal of fence in the UK."

In the latest guidelines the election is a key issue and the lessons learnt from the disastrous reliance by the media on inaccurate polls during the 1992 election have not been forgot-

"There is no area of broadcasting where the BBC's com-mitment to impartiality is more closely scrutinised than in reporting election campaigns, the booklet says.

The failure of voting-inten-

tion polls at the 1992 general election called into serious question the methods used by pollsters to estimate voting intentions... Until it is clear that [they] are more robust, the BBC will maintain a sceptical approach to polling."
Will Wyart, chief executive of

BBC Broadcast, said the toughened framework was a respons to a perceived hardening of pub-lic attitudes about violence although not about sex.

"Our audiences are not so fussed about the depiction of sex, but I think there's always been a concern about violence

Post-Modern tribute to rebel poet



Photograph: David Rose Split pea: 'Rising Universe', the £100,000 statue to Shelley by Angela Conner, being installed in Horsham yesterday

Jojo Moyes

"He was a radical man and the council was keen to have something that reflected that," said the man from Horsham council, "I think he would have ap-

Whether Percy Bysshe Shelley, anti-Royalist, atheist, vegetarian, and legendary romantic poet, ever imagined he would be commemorated by a £100,000, 16-ft globe between McDooald's and Capital Sounds and Vision, is unclear.

But as the last pieces of the sculpture, Rising Universe, were finally put in place yesterday evening, the people of Horsham

eran Harry Pearsall, 79. "I think it's a good idea in that Shelley is our famous son and, like myself, he was a bit of a rebel. But think it's a hit too much.

money on homeless people." witnessed the sculpture's gradual installation over the last week, was more enthusiastic. "I think it's brilliant. I like the fact

They should have spent the Dennis Bowcock, who had it's a bit different. I'm not a fan of all modern art but I like this - it's better than just a statue."

A memorial less like a statue would be hard to imagine. The sculpture, by Angela Conner, stretches across 45 feet and stands 28 feet high. Six-and-ahalf tonnes of water run from top to bottom, causing the "split pea" as one bystander called it, to rise and lower. Around it.

smaller "satellite globes" float in pools of water.

We commissioned a lot of representational art and we felt that to commemorate a radical man we wanted n radical sculpture," said a council spokesman, "There's been a very good response from the public. We expected quite a reaction but we've been surprised at how well it's been received."

Horsham bas been slow to commemorate Shelley, who was born there in 1792. While the West Sussex town's museum has a section devoted to the romantic poet, it has taken 200 years to forgive the man whom many traditionalists saw as a socialist embarrassment.

The unveiling of the sculpture, paid for by Sainsbury's, marked the end of a week of reconciliation, culminating in a visit by Italian officials from Lerici, where he drowned in 1822. It included the distribution of 2,500 gingerbread men to local schools (gingerbread was mentioned in Shelley's first recorded letter), along with in-

formation sheets on the poet. The Shelley Fountain Visitors' Centre will be open until 23 November to explain the poet's links with the town.

Drama heavyweights attack BBC 'dilution'

David Lister Arts News Editor

Some of the higgest names in British drama have joined forces to attack the director general of the BBC, John Birt - accusing him of diluting BBC drama for commercial expe-

Playwrights Harold Pinter. Alan Ayckbourn and Willy Russell; Ray Galton, the cowriter of Hancock and Steptoe

Mr Birt's reorganisation plans. Writing on behalf of the Writers Guild of Great Britain they say: "If the range of voices on the BBC is diluted for

commercial expediency, the country will be the poorer. The ter to The Guardian, that this in-BBC will have lost its distinctive the licence fee and public service broadcasting will be dead." John Birt announced last meot.

writer of Analock and Steptoe
and Son; the Dad's Army creators David Croft and Jimmy
Perry; comedieone Victoria
Wood and TV dramatists Jack
Rosenthal and Alan Plater have

Week. He most radical proThe ham and of the writer of the memorial for their
casting...The emphasis is on
Think it's a waste of bloody
delivery rather than content."

diverse as Casualty, EastEnders, Saturday Night Theatre and The Archers. It will initially be headed by Alan Yentob, the former controller of BBC1. The writers complain, in a let-

volves a division between the remit, there will be no need for editorial; commissioning and scheduling department, and the programmes-making departweek the most radical pro- . The main aim of the whole

• They knew what they were talking

about and took time to give me the right

Shelley's Statue Replies

By Martin Newell

saw a statue in a Sussex town And as I passed I heard the thing draw hreath The poet grinned and quietly whispered down What? Still in trouble years after my death? Here in Horsham, home of leafy cuteness? Do they still go on about my habits?

One frail monument to dissoluteness And they all start up like frightened rabbits. Sometimes, the devil is a gentleman Usually with poets it's vice versa So therefore when he learns to rhyme and scan He must improvise with his own cursor Horsham, I am Shelley, can you take it? Horny, atheistic staring at you Hope that HG Wells is next to make it. Horsham Heath deserves a Martian statue."

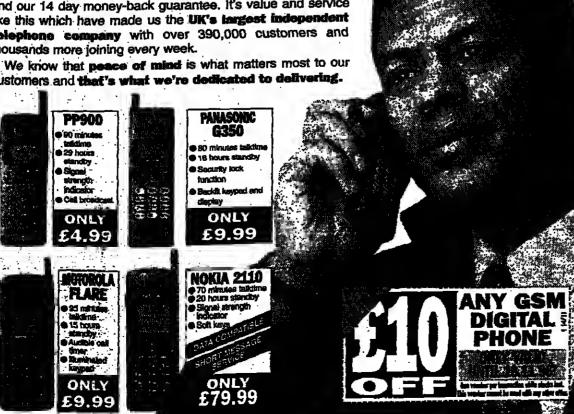
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Councils' fraud bills soar as gangs move in

Christian Wolmar

Westminster Correspondent

The amount of fraud detected in local government has doubled over the past two years, according to Audit Commission figures published today.

The commission says there is mounting evidence that organised crime is moving in on local government.

Some gangs have set out to defraud many councils. Attempted rackets include invoices being sent for professional organisations to which councils do not belong. Nigerian gangs obtaining bank account details to abstract funds and landlords claiming on be-

balf of noo-existent tenants.
The value of detected fraud has increased from £34m in 1993/4 to £69.5m last year. The number of cases has doubled from 83,000 to 166,000.

The commission, the localauthority watchdog, stresses that much of the increases result from better detection methcomputers to prevent housing-

benefit fraud. It points out that for the past two years councils have been rewarded with more government grant when they detect fraud.

The commission says it is unable to estimate the total amount of fraud in Britain's 400 councils and wants more to be done to prevent and detect it.

The commission has been

working with a group of local authorities to increase detection, particularly of benefit rackets which accounts for 79 per cent of the value of fraud. Andrew Foster, commission controller, said that a £600 computer program could save 100 times its cost in a year. "All councils should use these programs," be said. One racket detected by the program is fraudsters using a false identi-ty in all 33 London councils to claim bousing benefit at emp-

ty houses in each. There is very little detected insider fraud. All but 1 per cent of the fraud uncovered by auditors relates to the public, rather than staff, attempting to steal from local authorities, Only 21

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cases of corruption were de-tected in 1995/6 compared to 57 in the previous year, but the commission accepts that "corruption remains difficult to identify and to prosecute successfully

One area where fraud has increased is in student grants. The amount of detected fraud has risen from just over £1m in 1993/4 to £5m. One woman made claims in respect of five deceased members of her fam-ily. When her home was raided, it was discovered that she had 60 birth certificates, 17 marriage certificates and 14 British passports.

The commission criticised local authorities for failing to take sufficient care over cbeques. One borough lost £40,000 after thieves intercept ed and altered a cheque. Mr Foster said: "There are

safe ways of transferring money through computers. Issuing big cheques like this is ridiculous in this day and age."

Protecting the Public Purse Ensuring probity in Local Gov-ernment, Audit Commission. Labour calls for court action if children are out of control



'Help bad parents,' says Straw

More education in parenting and a national telephone information service for parents in difficulty would be developed under a Labour government, Jack Straw, the shadow bome secretary, said yesterday.

Mr Straw and Janet Anderson, shadow minister for women, said in a discussion document that unless the subject of parenting was tackled, delinquency and crime would grow. offending" lie in parental atti-oo pareoting and sources of "If we are not prepared to do tudes, defining pareotal rebelp but makes no promises

spend more on police, security, insurance, courts and prisons, the MPs say in the paper, which cites studies showing the link be-tween defective early childcare and delinquency.
Mr Straw said it was "no good

just lecturing parents for being lousy parents. We have also got to have intervention as well.

The document ontlines the scale and difficulty of the task, saying that while the "roots of offending" lie in parental atti-

It notes that in government. Labour would encourage the expansion of locally-developed parenting programmes...

Labour would ask the pro-osed Qualifications and National Curriculum Authority to examine how parenting lessons in schools could be organised and consider how resources could be better used to develop a telephone information service and guidance material

"parental responsibility order" should be available to the courts where it is clear that parental attitudes and behaviour are a key factor in a child's offending. Parents would then have to attend sessions. Mr Straw later urged people oot to castigate single parents, saying that he had been one of five children brought up by a single mother in Essex. He said: "The worst thing that happened to any of us was that I became an MP."

Major sacks rebel Dicks for support of total gun ban

Chief Political Correspondent

Commons on a total ban oo all

The Prime Minister yesterday underlined his determination to impose discipline oo the govemment "payroll" vote by sack-ing Terry Dicks, 59, as a ministerial aide for supporting

the Dunblane campai The sacking of Mr Dicks as parliamentary private secretary to John Watts, a junior Transport minister, was condemned by Labour's spokesman on Scotland, George Robertson, as a "brutal and insensitive warning" to other MPs that a victory on a partial gun ban mattered more than conscience or principle. "It is a sickening irony that Tory MPs, including Cabinet

vote on caning by breaking a free vote oext Monday.
ranks, but a humble parliaMr Dicks is one of the

Urging John Major to re-spond to the Dunblane parents' plea for a free vote, he said: There is still time for the Tory party to save its reputation. Mr Major was accused of acting "in a juvenile manner" by Alex Salmond, the Scottish Na-

tional Party leader. "This is a

clear sign of Major's petulance

and abject fear that the case for a complete handgun ban is now winning the argument," he said. About six Dunblane parents are expected to make their case to Mr Major at the meeting, im-mediately after Prime Minister's questioo time. But a Downing

Street spokesman played down

any chance of the Prime Min-

and corporal punishment, he backed the police on a total handgun ban. He said: "I am sorry the Government acted in this way. I have no regrets: first Hungerford, then Dunblane bow many more people have to die before effective action is taken to deny private ownership of handguns and other weapons?"

sacked from his unpaid post. He is now free to vote with other Tory rebels, led by David Melior, the former Home Office minister. MOn Testay night 31 Trees voted against the Some Tories said another 30 abstained. Voting for the robel Tory amenda Robert Banks (Harrogate); Spencer Batiste (Elister changing his approach to

He knew he risked being

Mr Dicks is one of the most (Durger S); Nicholus Budgen (Wolvertunaptor John Major today will neet parmed an entropy private secretary is ents of the victims of the Dunsacked for exercising his cooling tragedy but will resist science on gun control," Mr demands for a free vote in the Robertson said. (Cambridgeshire SW): Sir Archibald Hamilton (Epson and Ewell); Sir Alan Haselburs (Saffron Walden): Andrew Hunter (Bastogstake); Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith (Wealden); Michael Jopling (Westmorland and Lousdale); Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman (Lancaster); Tom King (Bridswater): Dame Jill Knight (Edghaston); Jain Mills (Meriden); Sir Cranky Onslow (Woldne's Roderick Richards (Clyyd NW); Sir Theyor Skeet (Bedfordshine N); Peter Viggers (Gosport); John Whittingdate (Colchester S and Maldon); Sir Jerry Wiggin (Weston-super-Marc): Ann Winterton (Congleton), and tellers, Tony Markow

repton N) and Rupert Alkson (Kirbsy). Labour MPs - Frank Cook (Sreckton N); Dr John Gilbert (Dudley E); David Young (Bolton SE) - and three Ulster Unionist MPs - Roy Beggs (Autrim E); William Ross (Lon-

Smith's widow enters Parl

John Rentoul Political Correspondent

Baroness Smith of Gilmorehill, the widow of the late Labour leader John Smith, was appointed yesterday to the party's front bench in the House of

Her appointment was part of last minor reshuffle, as Lord Richard, Labour leader in the

Lords, readied his team for a constitutional showdown with hereditary peers if Tony Blair wins the election. The former Elizabeth Smith has become a Labour spokeswoman on tourism. Since her husband's death two-and-half-years ago, she has kept a low profile, ap-parently resisting any move into any official position with-

But Lord Ewing, who clashed with the Labour leader over its handling of plans for a Scottish parliament, has left the

front bench. Meanwhile, Lord Stratbclyde, the Conservative chief whip in the House of Lords, confirmed that his party would not block the ending of speaking and voting rights for hered-itary peers. In a letter to Lord

Carter, a senior Labour front bencher, he confirmed that the Tories would abide by the "Salisbury Convention" Lords would not stand in the way of a manifesto pledge of a party which won a general elec-tion. But Tory sources made it clear that the progress of the Bill to remove the rights of hereditary peers "would be



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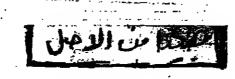
c) just go for a drive?

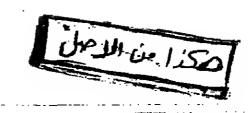
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Audi (TTT



UPTO





Voucher schools cram children into huge classes

Judith Judd Education Editor

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Local authorities are cramming young four-year-olds into large reception classes which are not equipped to cope with them, says a report on the first independent evaluation of the Government's nursery voucher scheme.

The report on the pilot scheme in four local authorities says the Government is mis-leading parents by talking about nursery vouchers: the scheme is more about four-year-olds start-ing school early than about nursery education

Some schools in the pilot au-thorities have changed their admissions policies to secure more voucher money.

Yesterday, Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, said that her officials had written to all local authorities asking them to consider whether reception classes are the right

place for young four-year-olds.

Ministers say the pilot has been highly successful with more than nine out of ten par-ents receiving and redeeming vouchers. In Norfolk, they say, 800 new local authority places have been created, plus 285 private and voluntary ones. Westminster has plans for 1,000 new places in the next three years.

Parents of all four-year-olds will be eligible for £1,100 vouchers from April next year.

number of places in Norfolk. some playgroups have closed, and a further 22 fear they will. Yesterday, she criticised the Mrs Shephard said: "Vouchers give parents a real choice. They take purchasing power away from bureaucrais and place it squarely in the hands of Government's letter urging local authorities to reconsider plans to put young four-year-olds in reception classes and to

work with private and voluntary

it both ways. If this scheme fo-

cuses on parental choice then the

marketplace is one in which

providers must compete. It is at

odds with the spirit of the scheme for the Secretary of State to tell people to work together."

Mrs Shephard amounced a £650,000 advertising campaign to publicise the £750m scheme.

The helpline set up on Monday

has already received 6,000 calls.

oups. "Ministers cannot have

But the report from early

Education + in The Tabloid

childhood expert Gillian Pugh says: "There is very little evi-dence as yet of parents exer-cising their choice differently from how they would have done before – indeed some are feel-ing pressurised by schools to send their children to school when they are just four."

Mrs Pugh says the burden of administration for the scheme, which costs just under £10 per voucher. There is a strong feeling of time wasted which could more profitably spent on educating children."

Local authorities in the pilot scheme have been given extra money for administration which will not be available when youch-ers are available nationally.

Mrs Pugh's report says it is too early to answer many of the questions about vouchers but points to the fact that while there

Silver show adds finishing polish to museum's new look



features in the newly refurbished Silver Galleries at the Victoria end Albert Museum in London. The An 18th-century chess piece which galleries opens on 27 November and covers aspects such as stylistic development of the metal and hallmarking

DAILY POEM

The Windhover

By Gerard Manley Hopkins

I caught this morning morning's minion, king-dom of daylight's dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in

Of the rolling level undernéath him steady áir, and stràding High there, how he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing In his cestacy! then off, off forth on swing, As a skate's hell sweeps smooth on a bow-bend: the hurl and

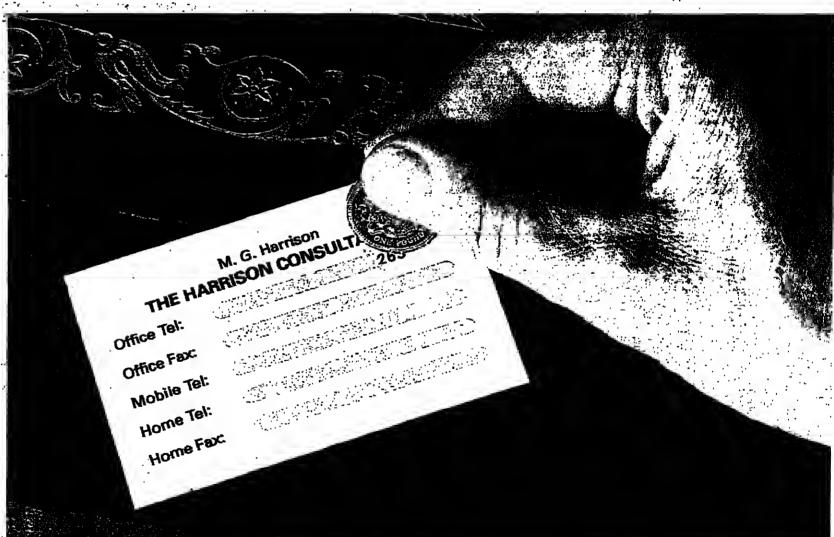
Rebuffed the bing wind. My heart in hiding
Stirred for a bird, — the achieve of it, the mastery of the thing!

Brute beauty and valour and act, oh, air, pride, plume, here Times told lovelier, more dangerous. O my chevalier!

No wonder of it: sheer plod makes plough down sillion Shine, and blue-bleak embers, ah my dear, Fall, gáll themselves, and gásh góld-vermilion.

Two years after completing "The Wreck of the Deutschland" Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote some of his best-known poems, including "The Windhover" and "Pied Beauty". In this time he was preparing for ordination and religious conviction fuelled sensory experience and visions of ecstatic intensity. For all this his poetry was underpinned with rigorous technique. His "sprung rhythm", the stress is provided by accents rather than by syllables, harked back to medieval verse but his stabbing use of words and vivid imagery he pushed new boundaries. Hopkins's Selected Poems are available in Oxford World Classics at £3.99.

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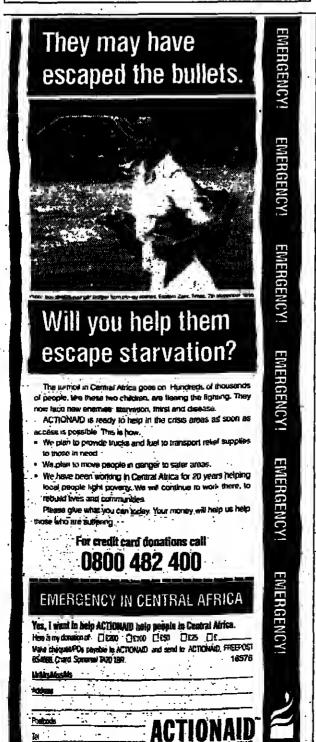
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Once the front line against the Luftwaffe, now it's Howard's front line on crime

Role change: The Prison Service has taken an 18-month lease on the former RAF base at Finningley and plans to move inmates in from January

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

A former Royal Air Force base is to be converted into a makeshift jail and police cells that cost £300 a night are expected to be used to house inmates under emergency plans to deal with the prison over-crowding crisis.

Richard Tilt, the director general of the Prison Service, admioed yesterday that the sys-tem was at bursting point. There are 58,090 prisoners in England and Wales, and there are expected to be more than 60,000 by next March.

The disclosure came as Sir David Ramsbotham, the Chief Prison Inspector, warned in his first annual report that overcrowding and lack of resources were the most severe problems facing the penal system.

The base at Finningley, near Doncaster in South Yorkshire, is due to house 300 low-risk category C prisoners from January, but the figure could rise to 900. The Prison Service has taken the site on an 18-month lease from the Ministry of Defeoce but Mr Tilt said it could be purchased outright. It is planned to build a security fence around the base, which until a year ago was used to train navigators and en-gineers. In the Second World World it was a homber base.

lice cells may have to be used to house inmates during the oext few weeks. A committee of MPs has already coodemned this practice pointing out that they cost more than a night at the Ritz hotel. In addition, in the next fortnight the first prefab-

ricated overflow huts will be opened. Up to 720 offenders could eventually be accommodated in this way. We are just about at the limit of our capacity and we are managing by mov-ing prisoners around (the country]," Mr Tilt said.

About 10.000 prisoners now have to share cells as inmates increase by 1,000 a month in re- Prison Service are shortage of sponse to the clampdown on offenders by Michael Howard, overcrowding, and the associ-

Five died at prison affected by drugs

Scotland, where five inmates killed themselves in a 15-month period, were overwhelmed by the number of prisoners with drugs problems, said a report published yesterday.

So severe was the problem that three in four of the 50-plus omen in the remand block of Cornton Vale prison, near Stirling, were under observation for medical reasons or because they were considered suicidal.

Clive Fairweather, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland, said: "The conditions in this [remand] wing were not unlike a mixture between a capsychiatric ward." The scale of the challenge

posed by drugs and drugrelated problems was shown by the number of medical prescriptions for the prison: 2,670 in October 1993, 3,198 in October 1994, and 5,528 in Octocommon use were cannabis, Temazepam, heroin, and Temgesic. Drug-induced epileptic

seizures were common among

the Home Secretary. Mr Tilt said

over-crowding would be eased

over the next 18 months by

7,000 places in new prisons and

building in existing ones. He said the Government had allocated an extra £85m to the problem.

Meanwhile in his annual re-port Sir David warned: "The

most severe problems facing the

omen on remand. In his account of conditions in the remand wing Mr Fairweather said: "Many were frail and undernourished, one women I saw could hardly get np off her bed to take a puff of

He said that In the shortterm more use could be made of community service orders and in the longer run more use could be made of drug addiction clinics as an alternative to term bail bostels could be used as an alternative for low-risk prisoners on remand.

Michael Forsyth, the Secretary of State for Scotland, said be would consider the recommendations on bail hostels and psychiatric screening by courts. ated evil of inactivity, are doing real damage to all the progres past four to five years."

The Prison Service pre-empt ed ooe of Sir David's recom mendations by announcing yesterday the setting up of a new unit to look at the interests of

woman and young offenders. Sir David acknowledged that overall conditions and treatment of prisoners were notably better than they were during the Eighties. But he said it was important not to let inmates slump into idleoess, expressing particular concern about cuts to work and education programmes - a fear receotly expressed by two former Home Secretaries Douglas Hurd and Kenneth Baker. He also described morale in the Prison Service as "fragile".

Prisons minister Ann Widdecombe defended the Home Office policy, saying that the most severe problem was the oumber of people being sent to jail and the oeed to accommodate them on the day they were sentenced. "We have made money available twice in the last few mooths to address the problem," she told BBC Radio 4's The World at One.

Shadow Home Secretary Jack Straw said: "What the Chief Inspector of Prisons report illustrates is Michael Howard's failure on law and orever-rising tide of crime and his failure effectively to manage the Prison Service.

The chairman of the Prisco Governors' Association, Chris Scott, added: "We should oot allow this slow drift back to poor "A home is burgled every 40 seconds."
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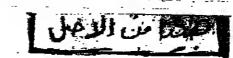
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ARN TESCO BCARD POINTS





More friendly than the chip: Omar Sharlf, bridge player

world draughts champion in 1994. A backgammon program beat the then world champion in a game as long ago as 1970, though analysis showed

next May. A computer became it was lucky in its dice throws. The problem computers have with bridge is that there is "incomplete information" about the game, unlike chess where all

suit and forms an overall plan. Other bridge programs, be-ing developed separately in Maryland and Oregon in the US, also work less like numbercrunching computers and more like humans. Matthew Ginsberg, of the University of Oregon, has devised one that guesses where cards are and plans accordingly. The Maryland one aims to lose the fewest

Alan Williams, manager of the English Bridge Union, has no fears that interest in the game will diminish, even if a world-beater does eventually turn up. "A lot of people like playing bridge for the feel of the

Leading article, page 17

Young artists take a winning leaf out of Britain's history book



compare their winning entries in the Painting Places contest with the real thing. ell, 9 (above), in Sheffield Park, and Frankie Patry, 10, at Bodiam Castle, in East Sussex Photographs: John Voos



New bridge computer will deliver ultimate grand slam

Charles Arthur Science Editor

First draughts, chess shortly -and next bridge? Computers could soon be world-beaters in yet another popular game, according to scientists devising a

new generation of programs in-tended to vanquish humans. However the news, which might at first cause the game's estimated three million players in Britain a deal of fear, is not that bad. It will probably be 20 or 30 years before a bridgeplaying computer is world champion, according to Pro-fessor Alan Bundy, of the arti-ficial intelligence department at Edinburgh University.

"Present commercial bridge programs play pretty amateur-ish games." Professor Bundy-said, "especially compared to chess programs, which in a few years will probably be the best players in the world." He thinks bridge programs now are at the point that chess programs were in the early 1970s. Whereas most club players

can easily beat the best com-mercial bridge programs, last February the chess world champion Garry Kasparov lost-a game in standard competition to the IBM computer Deep Blue. He won the six-game

there are far fewer possible combinations for the 52 cards -10° , compared to 10^{10} moves in a chess game - the fact that most of the cards are hidden at the start complicates the

process hugely.

Even after bidding, through which humans deduce much about the cards, a player only knows the position of half the cards. "One way to tackle it is to use abstraction," said Professor Bundy, a keen player. "You throw away the detail about the cards, and plan on an abstract level." The program devises a strategy to win tricks with each

tricks given the cards visible.

cards - and to meet people."

Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

The future of Britain is green - if the results of a children's painting competition are anything to go

The National Trust's Painting Places competition challenged children to paint a favourite site which they would love to

see saved for the future, and nearly two-thirds of the 12,000 children who entered chose stretches of coast or

Many of the children, aged between 4 and 15, added an explanation of

Winners of the competition, which is sponsored by the Yorkshire Building

Society and supported by the Vivien Duffield Foundation, will be announced today on BBC television's children's art programme, SMart. Their prizes will include National Trust gift vouchers and CD-Roms.

A selection of the winning entries will be displayed on the London underground and Metro rail networks in Tyneside and Manchester.

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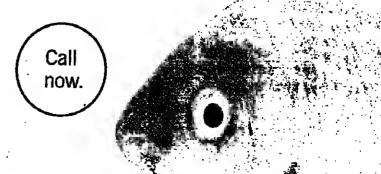
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international

Rebels fire on aircraft and threaten the French, suggesting intervention force may get a hot welcome

US joins effort to get aid to Zaire refugees

Rupert Cornwell Washington Mary Dejevsky Mary Braid

The Clinton Administration. bowing to intense international pressure, announced late last night that it would take part in a multinational humanitarian relicf force in Zaire.

But the signs on the ground were that the military situation in eastern Zaire may present a stiff challenge to the force, es-pecially if France is involved. Zairean anti-government rebels yesterday fired at a plane, suspecting that it was French.

After several days of discus-sion the United States seemed ready to announce its participation - the step that would turn the furce from an idea to a re-

Details will he worked out after a report from a Pentagon team in Uganda to assess the refugee situation. Major-General Edward Smith, commander of the Southern European Task Force, and a 40-strong team, arrived in Kampala yesterday.

They are expected to visit Netherlands is expected to dis-South-west Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania and possible centres in eastern Zaire for the humanitarian operation.

Washington was expected to ready to contribute up to 5,000 troops, with the prime missinn of securing the airport at Goma and providing equipment and logistical support. Hitherto Washington has been insistent that any United Nations operation to help the hundreds of thousands of trapped Hutu refugees must have a tightly defined mission to avoid any repetition of events in Somalia in 1993, when more than a dozen American soldiers were killed.

Momentum for a force is now huilding rapidly and a UN security council meeting to forit is expected imminently. Canada has said its first troops could be deployed within 48 hours of a UN resoluting. President Nelson Mandela said he is prepared in principle to contribute South African troops to an international force but wanted more specific information. Spain has put troops on alert and the cuss sending troops in a parliamentary debate today. Ireland has said it will provide troops if asked. Belgium, Zaire's former colonial ruler, has ruled nut troops but has nffered to help with logistics and

The disclosure that the US was already engaged in the re-gion, even to this tentative extent, came amid a flurry of diplomatic activity in France. where the idea of an intervention force was launched. Hervé de Charette, the French foreign minister, was due to have dinner with Warren Christopher, US Secretary of State, in Paris vesterday and a decision was expected to be announced after-

France also disclosed yesterday that it was already engaged in an airborne region. The French defence ministry said its purpose was to assess the feasibility of landing and protecting large consign ments of aid. It said that airfields on the Zaire-Rwanda border were too small and unsafe and that airports in Uganda and the



border at Cyangugu after the fall of Bukavu to the Tutsi soldiers of the rebel armiv

Central African Republic were being considered.

But the presence of France in the force continues to create considerable antipathy in Africa, where it is seen as being partly responsible for the cri-

outside intervention. sis in Rwanda in the first place. Yesterday rebels in Goma fired at a plane, saying they suspected French troops were on board. Aid workers later resumed distribution of supplies

"It is a signal of what things could be like if we want to mount a major operation in Goma," said Michelle Quintaglie, a UN World Food Pro-

France's neutrality is also compromised by the presence in his villa on the Riviera of President Mobutu, the leader of Zaire. He arrived from Switzerland last week where he had undergone an operation for prostate cancer. In a brief television interview on Tuesday he appealed for international aid for the million or so Rwandan refugees stranded in eastern Zaire hut gave no intimation that he intended to leave France soon, insisting that he was still Rwanda has said that French

troops should not take part in any force. Its president said yesterday that foreign intervention in Zaire would get "messy", like previous outside military operations in Africa, unless Zairean anti-government rebels were consulted. "To the best of my knowledge the United Nations has not consulted the people controlling eastern Zaire. But in order for this operation to work they must secure the airports of Uvira, Bukavu and Goma," said President Pasteur

ZAIRE

Rwanda and the rebels accuse France of a secret agenda to restore Zairean authority in the east and help the Hutus whose flight to Zaire in 1994 was aided by French interven-

"If French troops arrive in Goma..., we will fire on them and resist them," said Andre Kassasse, Zairean rebel commandant said.

There were also indications that the fighting is spilling over national boundaries.

killed three Zairean soldiers after they attacked two border posts, backed by Zaire-based Ugandan dissidents.

Martin Aliker, Minister of State for International Co-operation, said Uganda had repulsed the "enemy" and the Zairean soldiers and Ugandan dissidents retreated into Zaire from where they shelled Ugan-

dan positions all day. He rejected suggestions that Uganda was targeted by Zaire because of its support for anti-

Shadowy rebel force holds key to outcome

As the outside world reluc-tantly inches its way towards creating an international peacekeeping force to save a million Rwandan Hntu refugees, the rebeis who have broken up their camps in eastern Zaire remain a mysterious force. That has not stopped western

governments pinning great hopes upon them. The diplo-mats' ideal solution would have been the rebels' speedy dispatch of the thuggish Interahamwe, the Hutz militias which incited their people to genocide against their Rwandan Tutsi country-men in 1994, then led them into the UN refugee camps of east-ern Zaire where they were remoulded into one great collective cash cow to fund at-

tacks across the border.

But the Interahamwe is proving more of a match for the rebels than the unpaid, corrupt Zairean troops who fied at the first sign of trouble. It continues to manipulate and intimi-date its people, now holding hundreds of thousands hostage near Goma, as a shield against all enemies, including, pre-

sumably, any outside force. Diplomats are still trying to get a measure of the rebels "but we just don't know who exactly they are, how well they are equipped or where they are being funded from", said one Western diplomat dispatch to Kigali. "We're in the dark."

There are persistent rumours that an international network of expatriate Tutsis - particularly strong in Canada and the US helped fund the successful war by Tutsis, exiled in Uganda, against the Hntu-led Rwandan government in the early 1990s.

That network is now said to be supporting Zairean Tutsis -the Banyamalenge - which the Zairean government holds responsible for the rebellion in eastern Zaire. The Banyamulenge, the Zaircan government claims, are backed by Rwanda. Burundi and Uganda because they have designs on its territory.

Efforts to assess the balance of power are being frustrated by lack of information. Mary Braid reports

connections between Laurent Desire Kahila, one of the rebel leaders, Yoweri Museveni, President of Uganda, and Paul Kagame, Rwandan Deputy President and former military commander of the army that won Uganda for Museveni.

But the Banyamulenge Tutsis, while they appear to have been the main players in the in-surrection's first success in South Kivu, are not the only force. It is not even certain that they dominate what appears to be a coalition of at least four po-

The rebels might win with time, but time is something the refugees are sadly lacking

litical groups linked by one fac-tor: a hatred of President Mobutu, who has presided over the complete collapse of Zaire

during a 31-year rule. Kabila, who leads the rebels Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire, is not even a Tutsi. A Marxist and life-long successionist, he comes from the mineral-rich Shaha province and fought against Mobutu in the 1960s and in the Shaba uprisings in the 1980s.

In a giant and teetering country, which encompasses at least 250 ethnic groups, Shaba and neighbouring Kasai already operate independently of Kinsasha.

It bases this regional con-spiracy theory on long-standing Among the rebel soldiers pa-trolling Goma this week are many non-Tutsis from Shaba, Kasai and Haute Zaire, north of Kivu. Many speak perfect English and some even admit they picked up their language and military skills in the same

place - Uganda. Kahila denies receiving help from Rwanda or Uganda. But journalists and aid workers saw Rwandan soldiers in Goma. Refugees fleeing the conflict say guns flooded in and rehel groups seemed to swell before the insurrection began. Rwanda has most likely tak-

en advantage of the internal discontent in a collapsing country where money is literally worth less than the paper it is print-ed on. At the very least, Kagame must be delighted to see the Hutu threat removed from his doorstep, the rebels providing a buffer zone, and the international community at last forced to act. It is hard to believe that such a brilliant military strategist had nothing to do with this outcome.

Whatever the shape of the international force which eventually arrives in eastern Zaire. it seems unlikely that it can rely on the rebels to make its greatest problem - the Interahamwe - disappear. The rebels might win with time, but time is something the refugees are sadly lacking. The Interahamwe stands

between aid and the dying. The international communinow faces the problem it shirked two years ago when aid agencies warned of disaster if the Hutu extremists were not separated from the refugees. It was always going to be a difficult task; but it will prove impossible if those sent to do the job are deprived of the right to use force.

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Imre Karacs

Salman Rushdie swept into Denmark yesterday but did not quite make it to Europe's "cap-

ital of culture". Terror-stricken

Copenhagen had closed its

gates, banishing the author to

a suburban art mosenm, where

he was due to be presented with

the EU's prestigious Aristeion

barricaded by armed police,

the country's frontiers were

guarded with extra vigilance, and beards were subjected to

Taking the blame: Poul Nyrup

Rasmussen, Prime Minister

the greatest scrutiny, "Rushdie shall die," screamed yester-

day's headline in the tabloid BT.

a threat which the paper

claimed that it had received

from the massed ranks of

the comic opera that has been

enthralling a world-wide audi-

Danish Muslims.

annoyed about the visit.

"It is scandalous," Mr

Rushdie retorted, "that Copen-

hagen, the present capital of cul-

ture, refuses to permit the

winner of the European

Streets in the vicinity were

Copenhagen

Andes mountains after a powerful earthquake struck Peru's southern coast, killing 15 people and injuring as many as 700.

The 6.4-magnitude quake struck at midday Tuesday, damaging homes and buildings in Nazea, a tourist town of 25,000 located 235 miles synthesis of Lima

380 injured there, and streets were blocked with rubble. The quake lasted about a minute and was felt in Lima and as far away as Tacna, 600 miles south-east of the capital Nazes - (AP)

miles south-east of Lima. Four people were killed and

Greece fears Turkish threat

Premier Costas Simitis blamed the military threat from Nato ally Turkey for his decision to go ahead with a massive four trillion drachma (£10bn) arms modernisatioo

programme. Mr Simitis said the Greek people "will have to make sacrifices" to meet the goals of the eight or nice-year modernisation programme, which could surpass £15bn after debt payments. His announcement came as the Turkish parliament was debating a 1997 budget that includes £5bo in defence expenditure as compared to £2.5bo in 1996. Athens - AP

Bosnia force in racism row

recalled from Bosnia because decided to start a 30-day of racist T-shirts worn by his I-For peacekeeping troops, the Defence Ministry said. He had been relieved of his duties for tolerating the

with the the legeod. "Wogs go quiet wheo our strong arm elections a year ago. But Mr dictates. Heavy Platoon". Tudjman used his They also featured a caricature of far-right Austrian Freedom Party leader, Joerg Haider, flexing his muscles. Vienna -Reuter

North Korea

North Korea is smuggling illegal drugs through the Russian Far East as part of desperate efforts to fight a domestic economic crisis, a senior military intelligence official was quoted as saving.

The ITAR-Tass news agency quoted the unidentified official as saying the Russians have seized several shipments of heroin and opium that were being smuggled by North Koreans The official spoke after claims this week by a North Korean defector that Pyongyang is secretly running poppy farms nationwide to produce opium that it exports to carn hard currency. Moscow - AP

Data alarm for Estonians

Estonia is in uproar over the black market sale of personal information on thousands of citizens that was stolen from government data banks.

The Baltic News Service said Prime Minister Tilt Vahi has carpeted the heads of agencies where information was leaked and promised a full ioquiry. According to police, copies of government databases containing thousands of telephone oumbers, corporate and vehicle data are now for sale on the black market. Such information, police say, is of particular value to organised crime. Tallinn - AP

Protest over

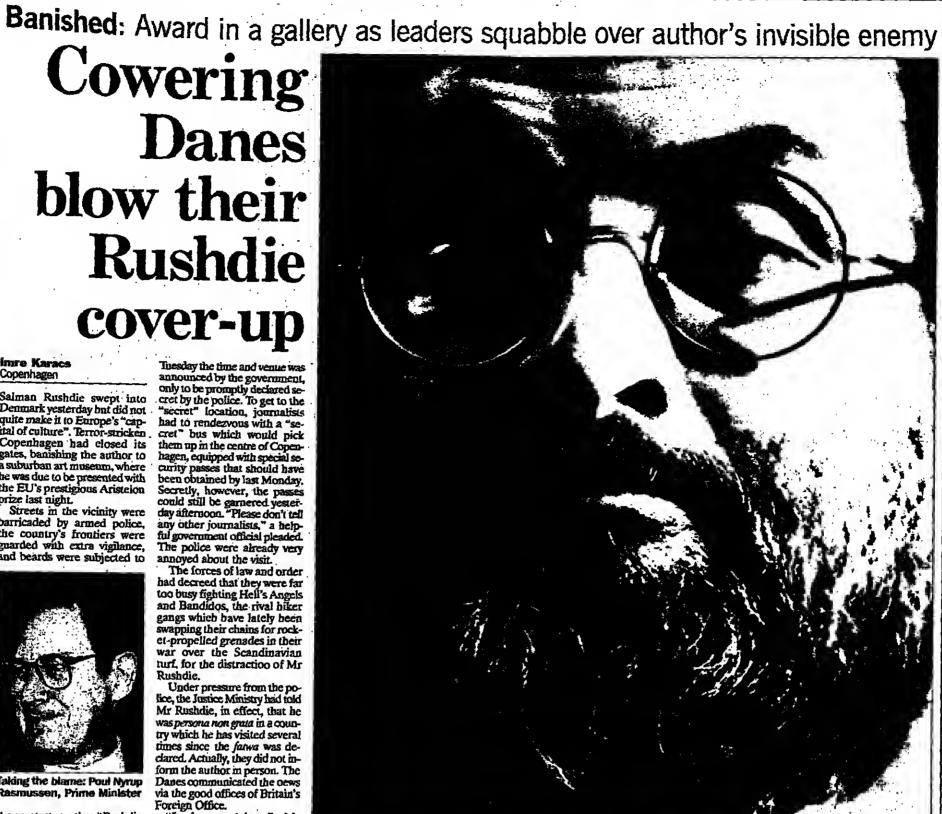
An Austrian army officer was

shirts, it said. The shirts were inscribed

Tudjman veto

Croatiao oppositioo parties boycott of parliament and cootinue boycotting the Zagreb city council. The Social Democrats

allied with five other opposition parties, outpolled President Tudiman's party in municipal presidential veto to reject four opposition-elected mayors, arguing he could not relinguish power in the capital. Zagreb - AP



No entry into the culture capital: Salman Rushdie said after being refused entry to Copenhagen, 'It is a cowardly decision which is exactly the opposite of what one should do in the face of such threats as the franken fetwa' Photograph: Geraint Lewis

Union's own literature prize to attend the ceremony. It is a cow-The ceremony, brought for- ardly decision, which is exactly ward by one day on security the opposite of what one should condemning the Tehran ternative but to admit that the grounds, was a fitting finale to do in the face of threats such as regime. While the dispute bas mystified the public in the rest Deamark was the first Eu- of Europe, in Denmark people ence for the past two weeks. On ropean country Mr Rushdie were outraged in Denmark by

ernments have been loudest in Nyrup Rasmussen, had no algenerously took the blame upon himself. That and the U-turn

raging in parliament. Today will see a full debate on the issue and on relations with Iran, and the coalition will only be sustained by reluctant left-wing opposition merits of the award, or indeed

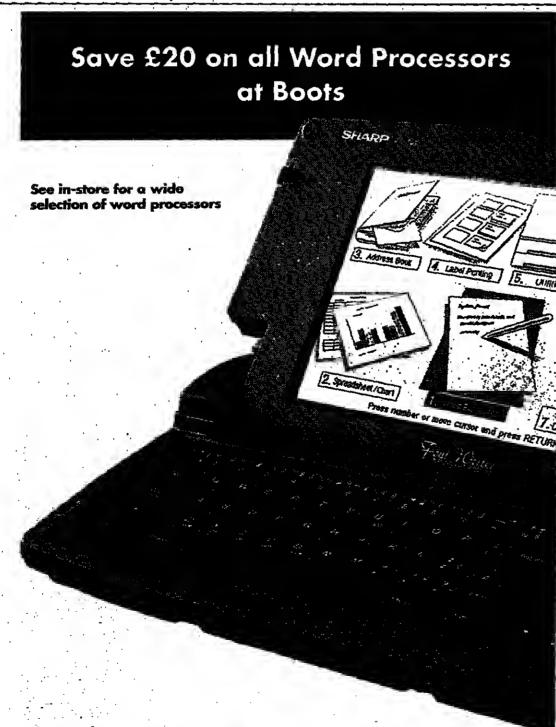
Mr Rushdie was awarded

visited after the death sen- their government's cravenuess. deoce vote he would have been seen to be voting with the optence, and Scandinavian gov- The Prime Minister, Poul certain to lose. But fury is still position on the right. narrowly averted a no-confiparties which do not want to be to express any opinion on Islam.

the prize for his latest novel, The Moor's Last Sigh. Danish bikers have yet to comment on the

(A . 1)

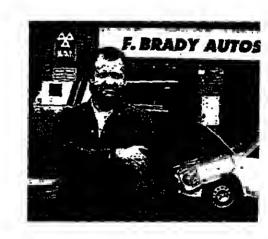
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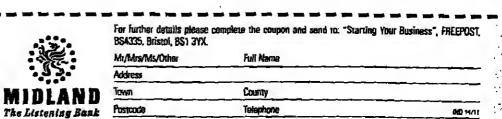


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Tapes point blame at Kazakh pilot

Officials blame poor English for disaster at 14,000ft

Tim McGirk New Delhi

The mid-air plane crash over northern India, which killed 351 people on Tuesday night, may have been caused by pilot error, according to Indian au-

Indian aviation officials yesterday released excerpts of the taped conversation between New Delhi's control tower and the pilots of the Saudia Airlines jumbo jet and the Kazakh Airways Ilyushin charter plane which collided in darkness at 14,000ft. There were no survivors, but two passengers from the Saodi flight survived the crash, still strapped to their seats, only to die soon after of

internal injuries.

The tapes, according to Indian officials, prove that both pilots acknowledged receiving instructions from air controllers to fly at varying heights. The Saudi flight, bound to Dharan and Jeddah, was cleared to fly at 14,000ft, while the Kazakh aircraft, headed for New Delhi, was ordered to descend no lower than 15,000ft.

'We've had bad experiences with these pilots from the former Soviet Union," said one senior official at Delhi airport. "They don't speak English very well. When we ask them to repeat the instructions we've just given them, a lot of times they say 'Roger' and then turn off

In the transcript, the Kazakh pilot reports in at 15,000ft and is told: "Roger, maintain level 150 [15,000ft]. Identified traffic 12 o'clock reciprocal. Saudi Boeing 747, 14 miles, Report in

The Kazakh pilot: "Report how many miles?"

Control tower: "14 miles now, Roger, Traffic in 13 miles, level 140 (14,000 feet)."

A minute later the controller watched, horrified, as two green blips on his radar converged and nished off the radar screen.

Indian air controllers also complained that pilots from the former Soviet Union sometimes confuse their calculations because they are accustomed to using the metric system to calibrate altitude and distances. while all other countries use ham, said his daughter had gone to work in Saudi Arabia

However, according to one air consultant, Rashid Jung. "plane crashes occur not because of one error but because of many factors". Searchers picking through the smouldering wreckage of the two planes, which crashed to earth six miles from each other, yesterday lo-cated the two black boxes which

may reveal more details. Some airline experts claim that over the past three years, New Delhi's air traffic has increased by 20 per cent, and the control tower is often left to juggle take-offs and landings with

Residents swore the Saudi pilot averted a worse disaster by

steering away

from villages'

out-dated equipment. Some ex-perts suggested that New Delhi's approach radar unit lacked sonhisticated monitoring devices, common now to most international airports, which not only track ao aircraft hut also give its exact altitude.

It is also common practice for cootrollers to mute incoming and outgoing aircrafts along dif-ferent "lanes" in the sky. But because of the Indian air force's stringent cootrols over civil air christopher Bellamy and traffic. the western route into Elizabeth Wine New Delhi - connecting the capital to the Gulf and Europe - serves for aircraft that are both taking off and landing.

Relatives of the crash victims arrived at the dusty village of Charkhi Dadri yesterday, 60 miles west of Delhi, to try to identify the remains of their loved ones. It was a gruesome, thankless task. Most of the Saudia passengers were Indian workers, but there was one Briton - Karen McCoy, 26,

from Birmingham. Karen's father, Michael, 55, speaking from the family's home in Northfield, Birming-

as a nurse 13 months ago. She had written home to her father and her step-mother Enid, 63, also a nurse, just a month ago to tell them she was planning a two-week holiday in India. Mr McCoy said: "When I saw

it on the news I just knew that she was on board. We rang the airline but they could not coofirm the passenger list but then the police called at 11.30pm last night and told us that she had gone through customs."

Aside from such things as a

shoe or a wallet strewn in the wreckage, there was nothing left to identify the bodies. Even still, the numbed relatives wandered through the debris with sheets and pieces of cloth to drape over the scattered remains. None of the police or searchers had bothered with such decorum.

Local residents said they were sure the pilot of the jumbo averted an even worse dis-aster by steering his hlazing aircraft away from their villages. The United News of India quoted witnesses in a nearby village as saying the aeroplane turned away from their houses

just before it crashed. "I strongly felt that the pilot tried to save the people," Karan Singh, was quoted as saying in Dahni Phabot village. "We had



Fears grow in a bad year for aviation safety

Flying is still the safest way to travel, but 1996 has been one of the worst years ever for air crashes, Tuesday's crash over India that killed more than 350 people is the fifth air disaster in a month, the twelfth this year and the tenth involving Western aircraft. The death toll is more than 1,700 this year - nearly 1,200 in Western-huilt aircraft: the grimmest for air safety in over a decade. "It's turning into a very bad year" said Mike Reed, of Airclaims, a Londonbased loss adjusters.

Many pressures bode ill for

aeroplanes flying closer to-gether in the skies. The number of aircraft flying has increased steadily in the last decade. The number of Western-built jets has increased from 7,097 in 1986 to 11,425 in 1995. In other words, we have the makings of a traf-fic jam in the air with no shoulder to pull over on to.

Suggestions are being floated to narrow the vertical space between aircraft from 2,000ft to 1,000ft. Tests are being con-North Sea this year to determine if 1,000ft is safe enough. . A decision is expected from

airline safety including the in- aviation authorities early next most experts prefer. Prope crease in traffic, which leads to year. The two aircraft which col- maintenance can extend the year. The two aircraft which col-lided in India were told to close to 1,000ft; for reasons as yet unclear, it was not enough...

The number of fatal accidents has not increased as fast as the number of aircraft. But the nomber of deaths this year, 1,187, has been by far the worst since 1985, when there were 1,537.

Another reason suggested for the high number of air accidents is the advanced age of some planes being flown. Many ducted at 29,000ft over the of the poorer nations in the former Yugoslavia and Soviet Union have aircraft much older than the 20 or so years that

maintenance can extend the life of aeroplanes but there has been some question as to the level of maintenance in such

Another worrying aspect of lies in the lack of expertise in air traffic control and equipment in countries in Africa and Asia. Such nations lack the money for all the proper equipment and training for air traffic controllers. Many airports lack the people or the hardware to guide planes down safely, leaving the pilots to guide themselves. Glohal positioning systems telling the milots creatly where telling the pilots exactly where they are will help, but they are not yet universal.

Carolyn Evans, technical secretary for the British Air Line Pilot Association, said one of her main concerns is the lack of uniformity between the communication systems of aircraft is then necessary. n the former Soviet Union. The communication radar systems, called transponders, "talk" to each other and signal vital information to pilots, without the crews having to talk to each other. The problem, according to Ms Evans, is the that former So-viet transponders don't "talk"

Soviet aeroplanes' altimeters are calibrated in metres, while the rest of the world uses feet. This could have the reason behind Tuesday's catastrophe. Ms Evans said BALPA had lobbied the Civil Aviation Authority to standardise the equipment.

craft safer should they find the reach of radar control towers will be mandatory in the UK by 2000. The system, called Airborne Collision Avoidance System, is already mandatory in the United States. It would make it possible for one plane with the system to be able to communicate with another plane that did not have the system as long as it had a over !

 $\mathsf{th}_{\mathsf{C}_{\mathsf{G}}\mathsf{A}_{\mathsf{G}}}$





The Right Chemistry



Nannie used to sit outside sometimes on the stairs and be frightened by all the screaming...' The Duchess of York talks to Rosie Boycott about love, adultery, betrayal, violence, and her struggle with 'The Firm'

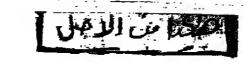
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'Most of the festival-goers are unarmed, but there are at least 150 hard-drinking gun-freaks...' Richard Grant goes wild at the Burning Man Festival

Plus: Jill Crawshaw's comprehensive, definitive guide to Christmas travel

IN THIS WEEKEND'S EPENDENT ON SUNDA



equal to the

With the tax-cut issue no longer obscuring the picture, both sides acknowledge that the gap between them is relatively small, even on the hyper-con-tentious question of Medicare and Medicaid, the two federal health programmes which must

even so the amendment sailed be balanced. In the last exthrough the House and failed change of proposals before the majority. Now, not only have the Republicans screen years, the Republicans Republicans increased their \$253bn (£158bn). "This dis-

> hoping to make a start on reweekend newspaper interview

US gives go-ahead for laser weapon

Rupert Cornwell

A consortium led by Boeing and Lockheed has won a \$1.1 billion Pentagon contract to develop the world's first full-scale air-borne laser defence system to shoot down ballistic missiles a project described by one supporter as a military innovation equal to the atom bomb.

This is as revolutionary as the invention of gunpowder or the Manhattan Project," Jerry King, the president of Boeing defence division, said of the scheme, comparing it to the con-struction and explosion of the world's first nuclear device in

The laser guns, with a range of several hundred miles, will be mounted aboard a modified 747 jumbo jet. If all goes well, as many as seven 747s could be in service by 2008, capable of delivering intense energy beams of light that could destroy missiles like the Souds used by Iraq in the

The idea is for the laser to strike during the initial "boost" phase of a missile's flight, so that the deadly payload would fall back on the country which launched the weapon. At which point a basic problem of laser beams resurfaces - their inability to penetrate clouds. "You'd better hope for good weather." said John Pike of the Federation

of American Scientists. Even so, the airborne defence concept is proof that despite much scepticism the 'Star Wars' dream has become a reality, albeit in not quite the grandiose form outlined by Ronald Reagan in 1983.

face to face with the pilot who dropped the bombs I would tell In the photograph album of the him, 'We cannot change history, but we should try to do good things for the present and for 20th century, one picture more than almost any other will best evoke its most tragic futilities: the future to promote peace." a nine-year-old girl running The veterans saw her and, to a

Veterans of Vietnam weep as the girl who became

a symbol of suffering comes to forgive 22 years later

soldier, they wept.
The story that ensured that Ms Kim Pbuc survived to be more than just the girl in the pic-ture began when Mr Ut himself, who won a Pulitzer for the courage and forgiveness.

The subject in both is Phan
Thi Kim Phuc. She was the child shot, took her burning body to a military hospital. She was treated for 14 months for the third-degree burns that covered half ber body, doctors rebuilding her with a series of skin grafts. Every time her skin was so much as touched she would pass ont from pain.

plane on the orders of an Amer-In 1984 she was "discovican commander. In the picered" by a Dutch documentary ture's left foreground is her team and simultaneously by the Vietnam government which brother. Two other brothers attempted 10 use her to gain international sympathy. In 1986 Ms Kim Phuc was also the woman with the open, kindly face, who on Veteran's Day last she was permitted to travel to Cuba to study. There she fell in Monday stepped through the crowd assembled at the Vietlove with a fellow Vietnamese student, Bui Huy Toan, whom am Wall in Washington DC to she married. On a return flight to Cuba from Moscow, where lay a wreath. Now 33, a wife and a mother, the girl who became the symbol of America's folly they honeymooned, Ms Kim Phuc announced that they had come to its very heart, not to stir its guilt but to help it learn would get off at a stop-over at Gander, Newfoundland. The couple were granted asylum by Canada and today, with a two-year-old son, they live in a one-"I have suffered a lot from both physical and emotional

room flat in a suburh of The journey to Washington

NOKIA



Image of an age: The Pulitzer-prize-winning photograph of Phan Thi Kim Phuc by Nick Ut of the Associated Press

an invitation from the Vietnam Veterans of America and the support of Shelley Saywell, a Canadian film-maker telling the story of her life.

While Ms Kim Phue avoided reporters, she offered details of her life in an interview with the New York Times. "Behind that picture of me, thousands

suffered - more than me," she said. "They died. They lost parts of their bodies. Their whole lives were destroyed, and oobody took that picture."

Ms Kim Phuc still suffers physically. In Cuba she developed diabetes and asthma and while her face is unblemished. beneath the clothes there is a scarred body. The skin, de-

prived of sweat or oil glands, image helped to end the Vietcannot perspire. "When the weather changes, the pain comes, like I am cut, cut. I try to keep down my pain, thinking, thinking to control it. I ask my husband to tell me stories, funny stories or ask me something se I have to answer him. And that is the way I can live."

nam War. Ms Kim Phue says she a stable life in Canada, a loving husband and a child she thought she would never be able to preduce. America has cause to be thankful too - for her grace and courage in coming to Washington to offer remarkable

Clinton shifts ground over balanced budget

Reconciliation: Phan Thi Kim Phuc after addressing the

Rupert Cornwell Washington

After a year of bitter sparring, signs are multiplying that President Bill Clinton and the Republican-controlled Congress may be able to clinch a deal to balance the federal budget well

before the next midterm elections in 1998. The clearest pointer yet came at the first post-election meeting between the President and top Republicans, at which Mr Clinton said for the first time that he could "live with" a constitun'onal amendment requiring a balanced budget - a move he previously denounced as a "gimmick" which might only serve to tie the government's hands in

dealing with a recession. In large part, of course, the President's change of tone reflects simple congressional arithmetic. When the measure last came up for a vote, in mid-1995, the White House pulled

by a single vote in the Senate to secure the required two-thirds majority. Now, not only have the overall Senate majority, but two Democrats who opposed the measure have been re- House spokesman, said.

placed by ardent supporters.

And whatever its intrinsic merits, the amendment's passage would increase momentum for a budget accord in the first and invariably least confrontational year of a presidential term following an election in which voters, by sending Bob Dole to defeat, signalled they did not be-lieve in the major tax cuts touted by the Republican candidate.

out every stop to thwart it: but be remed in if the budget is to

elections, Mr Clinton offered "cuts" of \$183bn (£114bn) over agreement can be bridged," Mike McCurry, the White Meanwhile Mr Clinton is

naked from a napalm drop in the Vietnam War, arms outstretched in terror. Now, thank-

fully, we have one more image

for the collection: it, by contrast, will stand for man's capacity for

who, on a June day in 1972, was

caught by the shutter of Nick Ut an Associated Press photogra-pher. She was fleeing after a di-

rect hit from a napalm bomh dropped by a South Vietnamese

were already dead.

from the horror.

pain," she told the crowd of vet-

erans at the Wall, "Sometimes

I could not hreathe, but God

building his Cabinet before he leaves for Asia at the end of the week, with the announcement of a new Secretary of State to replace Warren Christopher next January. The favourite is former senator George Mitchell, who has been chairing the Northern Ireland peace talks, but other candidates, notably the United Nations Ambassador, Madeleine Albright, and former Georgia Senator Sam Nunn, are in the running. An outside possibility is retired General Colin Powell, who hinted in a that he would not turn down the iob if Mr Clinton offered it.



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Settlers ready for Hebron struggle

Patrick Cockburn Hebron

In the Israeli military headquarters overlooking Hebron, a brown-coloured fortress built by the British half a century ago, a seuior Israeli officer pointed to a thin dark line on the map which will mark the partition of the city between tsraet and the

Palestinian Authority.
"There is friction, daily friction, friction all the time." said the officer, appealing for his name and rank not to be used. Most Israelis had already left the building, due to be taken over by Palestinian police after a final agreement is signed on Israeli redeployment in Hebron.

It is a peculiar type of with-drawal. In other cities we handed over authority and pulled out," said the officer."Here we are just going to pull back a few blocks." Benjamin Netanyahu, the prime

that there was a sell-out of the 400 Jewish settlers in Hebron. but it was Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, who made most concessions.

In future, Hebron will be divided into two areas known as HI and H2. In the former will live 100,000 Palestinians, pro-tected by 400 Palestinian police. In the latter, protecting 48 set-tler families in the heart of the city, will be 1,000 Israeli soldiers and 20,000 Palestinians included in the settler enclave. Yesterday troops were strengthening their checkpoints and heaping up sandbags. For Noam Arnon, settler

leader and spokesman, this is disastrous. "We are very concerned and very frightened that the PLO police are going to take over Hebron," he said. Asked if it was not the Palestinians who had most to fear from the heavilv armed settlers, Mr Arnon community of 50 men could



endanger 150,000 Arabs?" A few hours earlier the settlers of Kiryat Arba, the 6,000-strong Jewish settlement overlooking Hebron, had been in a more ag-gressive mood. Hundreds had gathered to celebrate the bar mitzvah of Ya'akov, son of Baruch Goldstein, who murdered 29 worshippers in a He-

bron mosque two years ago. Dov Lior, rabbi of Kiryat Arba, told the young man: "Follow the path of your father, he was a righteous man and a great

Israeli news photographers and cameramen were abused. A man attending the bar mitzvah shouted: "If there was an abom-

inable murderer in this country it was (the late prime minister Yitzhak] Rabin. Baruch Goldfather, Yisrael, added: "He was a hero. Everything he did, he did for the sake of Israel."

Mr Netanyahn, meanwhile was waiting to see last night if he could leave on a holiday to

Colorado or would have to cancel because agreement had been reached on Hebron. Palestinian negotiators said they

would not agree to the Israeli army entering their enclaves at will Israel said it was a long way from agreeing a timetable for the next stage of withdrawal from the West Bank.

Citizens mass to overthrow king rat

The invitation was hard to ig-oore. The fax from the Peking Patriotic Sanitation Campaign Committee welcomed observers to view the city's "mass rat-killing activity". As it was of-ficial rat-killing week in Peking. an upstanding citizeo knew where duty lay.

Participants gathered early yesterday with Zhang Xizeng. vice-director of the committee; he was on hand to explaio the finer points of rat extermination. He did not have statis-tics oo the rat population of Peking because "rats don't have to register like Chinese people" do", but the city's "rat density was below 1 per cent. This meant if one placed 100 traps for 24 hours, one rat would be

caught, he explained.

Peking's citizens have been mobilized against their rodent foes. In East District, there have been public viewings of the propaganda videotape. Rat killing in Chinese cities, and leaders of work units and enterprises have signed a "1996 winter rat-killing affidavit".

An inspection of 436 work units, 120 neighbourhood committees, and 12,311 rooms found the local rat density at a worrying 9.43 per cent. So, like everywhere across Peking, teams have been out in force, laying poison and traps at all the rats' favourite haunts - street markets, grocery stores, food processing factories and sewers. Some 100 tonnes of rat poison will be laid in the city this

Communist China has a tradition of mass campaigns against small creatures. In the Forties, China's four "demons" were deemed to be the rat, sparrow, fly, and mosquito. The most destructive mission was the slanghter of sparrows in 1958, at the start of the disastrous Great Leap Forward.

Chairman Mao ordered the country's population to strike up a cacophony of sound, beating

the birds from settling. Exto the ground. Mao had blamed the sparrows for eating grain, but ignored the fact they mostly ate flies and grubs. The result was a plague of insects.

These days the cockroach has replaced the sparrow in the "demons" line-up. In recent well as patriotic incentives are employed. Earlier this year in Shenzhen, the booming economic zone next to Hong Kong, the authorities offered a 5 yuan (40p) reward for every rat-tail handed in Professional ratcatching gangs set themselves up, and were soon feuding over the bounties. With rat-like cunning, it did not take long before dead rats were being shipped from the countryside into the city in order to claim the rewards. In the north-east city of Shenyang this spring, 400,000 rats were wiped out with an offer of just 1 yuan per tail.

This year's anti-rat campaign in Peking is "large-scale" compared to the city's recent aonual blitzes, but Mr Zhang said oo mooey is on offer. "It is oot because the density of rats in-creases dramatically. It is because during the last two years, a lot of old buildings were knocked down, and this de-stroyed the habitat of the rats so they have no place to live." Decisive action is needed because, said Mr Zhang, we are at the point in a 10-year cycle wheo rats are breeding heavi-

At the Liangshifa grocery store, a red and yellow banner hung across the entrance yesterday read "Everybody participate in killing rats". Inside the shop, an assistant said the poisoo had been mixed with milk powder, apples and sausage so it is more delicious for the

Teresa Poole

Mexicans jail their marijuana granny

Phil Davison

The school children called her little granny. The media have dubbed her "the narco-granny". She is 82 and will not be selling marijuana to children for a

while, as she is in jail. Sofia Garcia could be 87 before she leaves Topo Chico federal prison in Monterrey, in the north of Mexico. The federal prosecutor's office said that while it was oormally lenient with old people it was making an exception in this case because

of the seriousness of the offence.

pounce oo this gang outside tracted by the smell of mariiuana from schoolchildren oo a platform.

The pupils, aged between 13 and 17, said they had hought their palomitas, or joints, from a woman they called abuelita (little granny).

"I'm a poor woman. My hus-band is sick. I've been selling marijuana all my life. I have to do this to eat," she said as she was handcuffed and taken away to the astonishment of neighhours. The children said they had paid her 10 pesos (about £1) Garcia was jailed without for a cigarette. Garcia has so far bail while awaiting sentence refused to say where she bought for "crimes against the public health". Police stumbled upon her after a raid aimed at a mulhealth". Police stumbled upon her after a raid aimed at a mul-ti-million dollar cocaine and firearms ring. As they waited to

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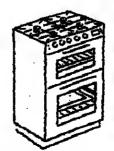
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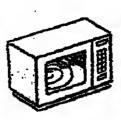
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Threat to hold on to weapons if alliance grows

Belarus warns Nato over nuclear arms

Tony Barber

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The President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, warned Nato yesterday that he might refuse to give up his country's remaining ouclear weapons unless the Atlantic alliance promised not to deploy ouclear arms in Eastern Europe. In a speech to the Russian parliament, the hardline pro-Russiao leader said there were "slightly over a dozen" ouclear weapons left in Belarus from the Soviet era, and if Nato wanted them removed he might "de-mand guarantees from the West that it will not locate ouclear

Nato intends oext year to invite a select group of former Communist countries in Central

He called yesterday for a joint session of the Russian and Belarussian parliaments in January that would decide oo the reunification of the two His speech won a sympathetic response from Communist and oationalist members of the State Duma, the lower house of

Russia's parliament, who are much keener than President. Boris Yeltsin's administration on reuniting Russia with some former Soviet republics. However, 13 liberal MPs de-

oounced the Communists and nationalists for allowing Mr Lukashenko to address the

group said: "By supporting President Lukashenko, who is obsessed with establishing an authoritarian regime, the national-Communist majority in the Duma has vividly demonstrated its real position on democracy and human

Mr Lukashenko, criticised in the West for his strongarm rule, has called a referendum in Belarus for Sunday week to endorse his plans for extra personal powers. He wants to restart his presidential term from the date of the vote and d Eastern Europe to join the rule for seven years without mance, and hopes to complete re-election. He also wants the judges, half the constitutional court, half the commission

> house of parliament. that would declare Sevastopol,

Georgy Tikhooov, the chairman of the Duma's committee for relations with declared that if the resolution

"tomorrow it will be Nato's fleet, not Russia's, that will be and Russia's most reliable strategic partner". He said that if Nato expanded to the east, Belarus and Russia should Ukraine hit back with a work jointly on an adequate re-

warning that it would seek support from the US, Britain The two countries signed an agreement last April that created a "Russian-Belarussian and France, which guaranteed Ukraine's territorial integrity in 1994 wheo it agreed to hand community", but in practice Russia has held back from takover its ouclear weapons to Russia for destruction. ing the decisive steps towards in-

The Black Sea fleet and tegration that Mr Lukashenko Sevastopol disputes have prevented Russia and Ukraine from signing a friendship treaty and caused Mr Yeltsin to postpone a state visit to Kiev six times in the last two



Shaking the system: Emil Constantinescu, leader of the centrist bloc who won Romania's general elections, greeting supporters after a live television debate with the incumbent president, ion Mescu, ahead of Sunday's second round run offs

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ukashenko: Alliance must

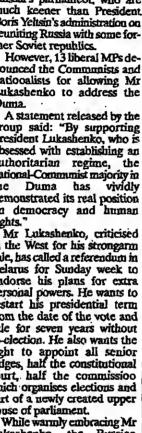
those most likely to join is Poland, which shares a border

to deploy ouclear weapons in Poland, the alliance is wary of striking formal deals with Rus-sia or other non-Nato states that could limit its future freedom of action. Nato hopes to allay. Russian coocerns by forging a close relationship with Moscow that would be defined in a charter to be oegotiated as the eolargement process moves forward.

openly in favour of uniting Be-

Although Nato has oo plans

While warmly embracing Mr Lukashenko, the Russiao parliament's majority has angered Ukraine by moving closer to adopting a resolution capital of Ukraine's Crimean peninsula, a Russian city and the former Soviet Black Sea fleet.

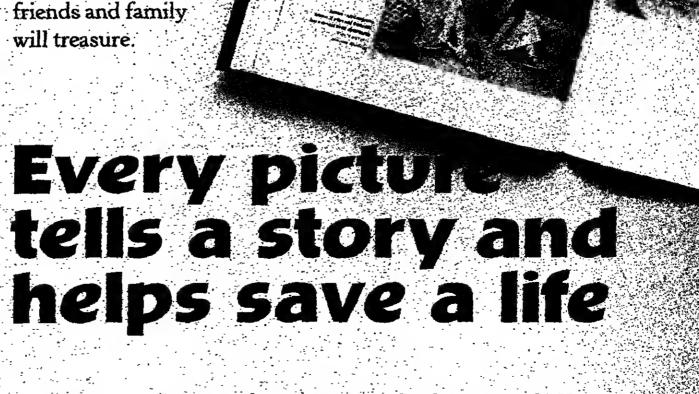




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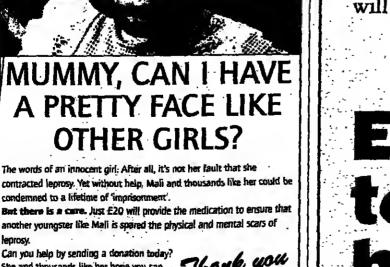
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Professor Peter Fowler

Peter Fowler was one of the outstanding physicists of his gen-eration. His principal research field was that of elementary particles and cosmic rays, but he also made seminal contributions in many other areas, ranging from measurement of jet turbine hlade temperatures to cancer therapy with particle beams.

The son of a prominent theoretical physicist, Sir Ralph Fowler, and the grandson of Lord Rutherford, the discoverer of the atomic nucleus. Peter Fowler was a Wykchamist whose first experiments in physics were as a radar officer in the wartime RAF (1942-46). Some time after D-Day, RAF bomhers were having problems due to German jamming of their Gee navigation system. Fowler was able to detect the jamming signals and, by a clever analysis which was a real tour de farce, to pm down the station responsible, which was then destroyed. Goering reportedly demanded a court martial over the hreach of security, since he simply could not believe that the British were smart enough to deduce the location of the secret transmitter within a few days of its heing switched on.

After taking his degree at Bristol. Fowler joined C.F. Powell's cosmic ray research group. This time in the late Forties was something of a golden era for physics in Britain, with startling new discoveries occurring

almost daily.

Fowler was a leading figure in this research: among his notable achievements were the identification of the first example of a new type of "strange" elementary particle undertaken using massive decalled a tau meson (one of his



was Rosemary Brown, who later became his wife) and the development of novel methods to measure the energies and electrical charges of the high energy primary cosmic ray nuclei, recorded on high-altitude balloon flights. The identification among these of the light ele-ments lithium, beryllium and boron - almost completely absent in the stars - was the first proof that primary cosmic rays had heen circling in the galaxy for millions of years, since such light nuclei could only have come from fragmentation of heavier nuclei in rare collisions in the interstellar medium. Fowler was also one of the first people to give the correct ex-planation of the aurora phenomenon, as due to light from atoms in the stratosphere excited by collisions with particles

in the Van Allen radiation belts. During the late Fifties and early Sixties, a long and systematic study of the characterisrics of nuclear interactions at extremely high energies was tectors carried in balloons and co-workers in this discovery in proving flights of VC10 air-

Don Kenyon

craft to Australia. This pioneer in situ. His most recent re work of Fowler's laid the basis search, in which he was active of later researches using parti-cle accelerators. In 1961 he also wrote an important report for the Air Registration Board demonstrating that, contrary to what some scientists had asserted, the radiation levels due to solar flares in high altitude flights in Concorde across the North Atlantic would be no igher than in subsonic jets.

Peter Fowler's long-term interest in the nature of the cosmic radiation was pursued further using solid state detectors carried in very long balloon flights, and with gas scintillator detectors flown on the Ariel 6 satellite in the early Eighties. For the first time, significant results were obtained on the fluxes of atoms heavier than hismuth of the actinide series, such as thorium and uranium. The interest in these is that such nuclei can only be huilt from lighter elements by the rapid neutron capture processes unique to supernova explosions, the death throes of massive stars. The measurement by Peter Fowler of these "super heavy" nuclei is a very important marker for our understanding of the supernova

One of the critical factors affecting the efficiency of aircraft jet engines is the temperature of the turbine hlades, which is, however, difficult to measure directly when the engine is running. Fowler's ingenuity devised a neat way around this for Rolls Royce by exploiting the resonance capture of low energy neutrons in iron nuclei and the hroadening of this resonance with the blade temperature, which could thus be measured search, in which he was active at the time of his death, was a novel application of these ideas to geology, by using neutron res-onance directly to calibrate thermocouples at thousands of atmospheres pressure, such as ohtain deep inside the earth's crust. An accurate temperature calibration is vital to understanding mineral reactions and cannot be obtained in any

other way. Appointed a Reader in Physics at Bristol in 1961, in 1964 Fowler was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and subsequently as a Royal Society Research Professor in Physics. He served as chairman of the Medical Research Council Committee on Radiological Protection (1983-92), as a member of the Meteorological Committee (1983-93) and on the SERC Neutron Facilities Review Panel. He contributed a host of original papers to sci-entific literature and was joint author of several books, including, with Dr B. Foster, Forty Years of Particle Physics (1988).

Outside physics, his diverse interests included gardening (at which he was an expert) and meteorology, which for him was a lifelong hobby.

D. H. Perkins

Peter Howard Fowler, physicist: born 27 February 1923; Assistant Lecturer in Physics. Bristol Uni-versity 1948-51, Lecturer 1951-61, Reader 1961-64; Royal Society Research Professor in Physics 1964-81 (Emeritus); Visiting Professor, University of Min-nesota 1956-57; FRS 1964; married 1949 Rosemary Hempson (nee Brown; three daughters) died Bristol & November 1996.



Gwen Catley

joined the BBC chorus. In 1937

Don Kenyon would have been year and began a glittering career in the dark green cap, passing 37,000 runs, scoring 74 pleased that his last appointment was with the cricket cluh he had served with devotion since 1946. He died yesterday after being taken ill at a Worcestershire members' meeting at the county ground at New Road. A right-hand opening hats-

man and an occasional medium pace howler, he played eight times for England and was He may have been over-shadowed by the more charis-matic Tom Graveney, who arrived in 1961, yet he was el-egant enough in his play to be included by Neville Cardus in a list of hatsmen of "style and ranked as one of the possible partners for Len Hutton if and when Cyril Washhrook was un-available. If his recruitment for his country was fleeting, his feats for Worcestershire made him a giant figure in that handsome shire by the Severn.

Staffordshire-born, Kenyon was one of many players hasti-ly recruited into first-class crickct immediately after the Second World War as counties strove to field first-class teams, composed often of ageing pre-wai players, amateurs and untried youngsters. Kenyon revealed himself as an opener of promise with a fine array of strokes, application and a cricketing brain.

He was capped the following

centuries, reaching 1,000 runs a summer 19 times and seven times scoring more than 2,000. For almost 10 years he and Worcestershire were synonymous. Opposing bowlers reck-oned that dismissing Kenyon was the end of half the innings.

pleasure"; at that time, a list that included Graveney and Jack Robertson of Middlesex.

In 1959 Kenyon hecame Worcestershire's professional captain and from then onwards took on a stature far above that of star batsman. Gradually an impressive team was gether: Graveney, Jack Flavell, Ron Headley (son of George, father of Dean), Len Coldwell from Devon, Roy Booth from Yorkshire and a future England spinner, Norman Gifford, who



turned up after answering an advertisement in the Cricketer. In 1962 Kenyon led Worcestershire, a club that had never won the Championship, to sec-ond place and two years later to their first win. He repeated the feat again in 1965, popular victones at a time when the cour try had resigned itself to another decade of Yorkshire supremacy.

Kenyon had proved himself a fine captain, a good tactician with a sound knowledge of the opposition and an ability to

maintain morale in the dressing room. By 1965 he had also acquired a Test-class all-rounder in Basil D'Oliveira, E.W. Swanton described Kenyon's team as "the best balanced of the 17 counties" and, while there was criticism of the pitches prepared at New Road, Worcestershire claimed 11 of their 16 victories in 1964 away from home.

Tim Curtis, a later county captain, said of him: "Don gave Worcestershire the winning habit." By the time Kenyon retired from the captaincy in 1967 he had lifted the club to the front rank and his achievements were recognised nationally by an appointment as an England selector from 1965 to 1972, where he helped change the course of history by naming D'Oliveira for a tour of South Africa, the event that focused attention on apartheid - and

Derek Hodgson

Donald Kenyon, cricketer: born Wordsley, Staffordshire 15 May 1924; married (two daughters); died 13 November 1996.

Gwen Catley, a high soprano with quite exceptional facility for coloratura, was for 20 years a great public favourite. She sang in opera, on the concert platform, in revue, on radio and television; she made countless records of songs and arias, and appeared in two films, giving a

great many people a great deal of pleasure. Her voice was small, hut crystal clear and firmly projected, while its leg-endary agility was balanced by style, delicacy and excellent English diction. She was a fine musician. She was born Gwendoline

Florence Catley in 1906, in London, and privately educat-ed. She studied at the Guildhall School of Music at the time when Sir Landon Ronald was its Principal; her chief singing teacher was the tenor Walter Hyde. Catley won the Gold · m ract s twice, but was not allowed by her father to accept it on the first occasion. By the time she won it again, she was married

to the cellist Allen Ford.

ranging, from Mozart to Johann Strauss, from Purcell to Edward On leaving the GSM she

she sang the Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* and Nannetta in *Falstaff* for Sadler's Wells Opera, and the following year gave her debut recital at the Wigmore Hall. She was soon immersed in a busy career as a

concert singer, working with all the leading British orchestras as well as with the BBC.

During the Second World War Catley scored a huge suc-cess in the revue Hi-de-Hi, presented by Jack Hylton at the Palace Theatre, which opened in June 1943 and ran for 340 performances. Catley sang Gilda's aria "Caro nome" from Sir Thomas Beecham, which Rigoletto, with full orchestra. Afwas re-broadcast in 1979 to ter the war she sang with the Carl Rosa Opera Company. celebrate the centenary of She had first appeared with them in 1941, singing Gilda, and she continued to sing with the company until the 1956/57 sea-At the end of "Caro nome" she

would "let forth a silvery high E", as one critic remarked. Her repertory was wide-

German, but, as her recordings show, her voice was particularly ill-suited to 19th-century French opera-comique: Philine's "Je suis Tuania" from Mignon, Juliet's Waltz song from Goimod's Roméo et Juliette, the Shadow song from Meyerbeer's Dinorah, the Bell song from Lakme and Olympia's Doll song from The Tules of Hoffmann were all, though sung in English, stylishly performed. In 1949 she sang Catherine Glover in a BBC studio broadcast of Biret's The Fair Maid of cast of Bizet's The Fair Maid of Perth, with Richard Lewis as Henry Smith and conducted by

Beecham's birth. After her retirement Catley gave private lessons in singing, in London and in Italy, where she built a villa in Lerici.

Gwendoline Florence Catley, singer: born London 9 February 1906, married 1936 Allen Ford (one son); died Hove 12 November 1996.

Tricia **Ingrams**

The art of being a good radio and television interviewer is to be a good listener. Interviewees sensed Tricia lngrams's interest in them and her gentle manner drew revealing insights. She was especially good at inter-viewing children. Young kukaemia sufferers or transplant patients and their families enjoyed her support long after their news value had ended.

- She was burn Patricia Geaney in Edgware, Middlesex, in 1946. Her parents had recent-ly arrived from Ireland, and her father, an electrician, worked hard to establish a hardware shop and accumulated a small property portfolio. There were three more children before, suddenly, Tricia's mother died. Her father never recovered. The family was orphaned when her brothers were aged 15 and 10, her sister just nine. At the age of 18 Tricia demonstrated her formidable strength of char-acter when she fought the bat-tle to keep the family together. A job with the locally pro-

duced magazine of the Spar grocery chain launched her jour-nalistic career. Writing for var-ious IPC magazines followed, but it was as the Sun's "Action Girl" in 1970 that she found fame. Her diminutive figure would be pic-tured at the wheel of a Chieftain tank on Salishury Plain, skydiv-

ing or dressed as a Playboy
Club "Burny"
The unlikely surroundings
of the United Biscuits actory in west London saw the bunch of her hroadcasting career. Like others who went on to become household names in commercial radio she helped provideroundthe-clock entertainment or the company's production line workers countrywide.

It was there that she met her husband, Paul Ingrams. Vhen commercial radio startedap in London in 1974 she becane a newsreader and reporter at Capital Radio, and he west to LBC. She joined him then the following year when Cantal closed its in-house news oeration, and it was in LBC's ubterranean studios off Fret Street that her career took ff,

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Tricia Ingrams's warmth ad enthusiasm transcended he barrier of microphone and, Iter, camera. "The Sunday hterview" with leading figures of the day attracted large aucences, as did the phone-ins st helped pioneer.

After belping set up Radio Victory in Portsmouth in 1976 Iricia and Paul Ingrams returned to London. She moved into television as a reporter/presenter on Thames Television's news programmes. For some years she ahared the studio with the former ITN newsreader Andrew Gardner, he tall and powerfully built, she

groomed - the perfect foil. There were personal disappointments and, in 1985, her marriage failed. She left Thames just before the company lost its franchise in 1992, working first at Anglia Television and later at Sky, before returning to radio as a launch presenter with LBC's successor, London News Radio.

Tricia Ingrams fought cancer with everything in her amoury. Her determination and sense of the ridiculous never faltered. Three hundred people attended her funeral. At her request, no one wore hlack.

1946; married 1972 Paul Ingains

(marriage dissolved 1985); died London 26 October 1996.

Barbara Long Patricia Geaney, broadcaste and journalist: born Edgware 28 March

Alex Atterson

Every movement has its generals and foot-soldiers, and in the ranks of the folk revival Alex Atterson was probably more of an NCO. Though by no means one of its best-known singers, he was a robust performer of the Scottish canon and his settings of the poems of Charles Causley are comparable with - and probably superior to - those of Paul Simon. Atterson was horn in Cambusbarron, a small village out-

side Stirling, into an extended family that used to hire the village hall every New Year's Day for an impromptu party in which every member had their party piece, which might be contemporary pop or traditional Scots. He was the only child of a woman who had served as a nanny to the local gentry; his father was a semi-skilled worker with a variety of trades to his name.

industrial chemist, coming south to work with the British Sugar Corporation in Peterborough, then moving to the Reckitt and Colman company in Norwich, a city where he stayed until he died. Singing regularly at the local Sunday night folk club, he became a professional performer in the late Sixties - about the same time that he became deeply involved in the Norwich Folk Festival, one Alex Atterson trained as an

of the most widely respected events in the folk calendar for 13 years until, in 1982, it was barred from the campus of the University of East Anglia be-cause the authorities were afraid that travellers from the then notorious "Convoy" might

sneak in and establish a presence there during the event. One of the remarkable features of the festival was that no one was paid. All appeared for

takings. Only Atterson could have pulled that off. He produced two albums of his singing in 1974 and 1977, the second of which took its name, Pushing the Business On, from a phrase in the Causley poem, O Billy, Do You Hear That

Bell", which was one of his most accomplished settings.
In 1979, the increased price of petrol and the difficulty of reputation as a reliable and

the promise of a share of the making a living on the road caused him to abandon his professional status. He trained as a teacher, serving a year at the primary school in Acle, Norfolk, before transferring to the science department of the high school in the same town, which he came to head by the time of his retirement in July this year.

During his hrief professional career, he had established a

tastes extended from traditional hallads to jazzy rags and foot-stompers, and was particularly highly regarded in Cornwall and in Bedford, to which he returned only last year for the local cluh's 30th anniversary.

warm-hearted performer, whose

Karl Dallas

Alex Atterson, folk singer born Stir-ling 14 April 1931; married (two sons); died 21 September 1996.

Births. Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

HARMER: On 5t October, to Clea (nee Blake-James) and Andrew, a daugh-ter Felicity Elizabeth, a sister for Alix, Edmund and Fabian.

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS, please telephone 9171-293 2011.

ROYAL ENCAGEMENTS
The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, and Trustee, attends the Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, and Trustee, attends the Duke of Edinburgh's Award General Council at the International Council at the International Council at the Edward, Trustee, attend the Color of Edinburgh's Award Council on Control at the International Council on Control Council at the International Council on Council on Council on Council on the International Council on Cou ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Changing of the Guard The Household Cavaler Mounted Regiment mounts the Oncer's Law General at House Guards. Hant. 1st Buttalion Webb Guards mounts the Queen's Guard at Buckleyhan Pulson. I Lithan, tend provided by the Scots Guards. Birthdays

The Prince of Wales, 48; King Hussein of Jordan, 61; Sir Lawrie Barratt, chairman, Barran Developments pk, 69: Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary-Geoeral, United Nations, 74; Mr Quentin Crewe, writer and restaurateur, 70; Mr James Crowden, Lord-Licutenant of Cambridgeshire, 69: Mr Paul Dacre, Editor, Daily Mail, 48: Mr Thomas Dawson QC, former Solicitor General for Scotland, 48: Mr Freddie Garrity, rock sunger, 56: The Right Rev Mgr George Hay, parish priest, 66: M Bernard Hinault, cyclist, 42: Mr Peter Katin, concert pianist, 66; Mr Mark Le Fanu, General Secretary, the Society of Authors, 50: Air Marshal Sir Richard Nelson, 89; Mr Patrick Nicholls MP, 48; Mr Gunther Sachs, former German bobsleigh champion, 64: Mr David Shaw MP. h; Miss Diana Skilbeck, Headmistress, the Queeo's School, Chester, 54; Sir Dudley Smith MP, 70; Sir Joseph Smith, former director, Public Health Laboratory Service, 66, Sir Arthur Watts, former legal adviser, Foreign and Commonwealth

Births: Juhann Lukas von Hilde-brandt, architect. 1668; Sir Charles Lyell, geologist, 1797; Claude-Oscar Monet, painter, t840: Leo Hendrik Backeland, inveotor of Bakelite 1863; Steele Rudd (Arthur Hoey Davis), novelist, 1868; Pandit Jawaharal Nehru, statesman, 1889; Sir Frederick Grant Banting, physician, 1891: Harold Larwood, cricketer, 1904: Dick Powell (Richard Ewing Powell), actor and singer, 1904; Joseph Raymond McCarthy, senator, 1908; Dame Elisabeth Frink, sculp-

tor, 1930. Deaths: Justinian I, Roman or, 1930. beatage rosuman i, roman emperor, 565; Thomas Parr, known as "Old Parr", reputedly aged 151, 1635; Nell (Eleanor) Gwynn, actress and mistress of Charles II, 1687; Louise de Keroualle, Duchess of Portsmouth, mistress of Charles II 1734; Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, philosopher, 1831; Dr John Abercrombie, physician, 1844; Robert Whilehead, inventor of the torpedo, 1905; Hector Hugh Munro ("Saki"), writer, killed in action 1916; Robert Emmet Sherwood, playwright, 1955; Tony Richardson, film and theatre director, 1991. On this day; one of the greatest known carthquakes in England occurred, 1318; Lieutenant Engene Ely, US Navy, was the first man to take off in an aircraft from the deek of a ship, 1910, belock of the control of the cont 1910; book tokens first went on sale 1932; Coventry Cathedral was destroyed by enemy bombing, 1940; the aircraft carrier 4rk Royal was sunk. 1941; the New Musical Express published Britain's first pop music chart. 1952; after a subterranean volcano crupted, a new island, named Surt. sey, appeared nff teeland, 1963: colour television transmission was begun in Britain, 1969; Princess Anne married Captain Mark Phillips, 1973. Today is the Feast Day of St Adootus Aribert, St Dubricius or Dyfrig, St Laurence O'Toole, St Nicholas Tavelic, St Peter of Narbonne and St

Stephen of Cuneo.

Lectures National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "Peepers (i): Samuel van Hoogstraten, A Peepshow with Views of the Interior of a Dutch House", 1pm. National Portrait Gallery: Jacob Simon, "The Art of the Picture Frame", 1,10pm.

Victoria and Albert Museum: Susar North, "The Art of Savile Row Tailoring the firm of Henry Poole 1806-1996", 2.30pm. British Museum: Constantine Poli-

tis, "Archaeology in Jordan (i): two cemeteries on the Dead Sea", London School of Economics, London WC2 (1949 Seminar Memorial Lecture): John Tusa, "Can the Good Society he a Cheap Society?",

Courtsuid Institute of Art, London WC2: Jane Robert, "Sir William Chambers and George III", 6.30pm. Leicester University: Professor Zbig-niew Dazzynkiewicz, "Apoptosis, Cyclins and Cell Cycle Control".

Dinners

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Sir Nicholas Bonsor MP, Minister IIf State for Foreign and Common-wealth Affairs, hosted a dinner yesterday at Lancaster House, Lon SW1, on the occasion of the Semi-nar on Reconciliation and Reconstruction in Bosnia and Herzegovina organised by the British Association for Central and Eastern Europe.

Institute of Materials The Duke of Edinburgh presented the Institute of Materials' Prince

Philip Award for Polymers in the Service of Mankind to Maunsell Structural Plastics Ltd at a ceremony held yesterday at Buckingham Palace, London SW1. Sir Geoffrey Allen, Past President of the Institute, was the host at a luncheon held af-terwards at the Institute's headquarters, 1 Cariton House Terrace,

European working time directive is upheld

European Union (Case C-84/94); European Court of Justice; 12 nber 1996

A European Council directive. adopted as a measure aimed at contributing to the protection of the "health and safety of workers" under article 118a(2) nf the EC Treaty, could validly provide that the average working week be restricted to a maximum of 48 hours.

But a provision for Sundays to be treated as part of the minimum weekly rest period was annulled as lacking a proper legal basis under the Treaty. The European Court of Jus-

tice dismissed, except on one point, the United Kingdom's application for annulment of Council Directive 93/104/EC of 23 November 1993 (OJ 1993 L 307, p 18), the "working time directive". The directive was adopted on

the basis of article 118a of the EC Treaty, under the qualified voting procedure. The UK did not vote. Article 118a (as amended) provided: 1) Member states shall pay particular attention to encouraging im-

ular attention to encouraging im-provements, especially in the working environment, as regards the health and safety of workers, and shall set as their objective the harmonisation of coodinions in

LAW REPORT

14 November 1996

this area, while maintaining the improvements made. infringed. 2) In order to help achieve [this objective] the Council ... shall adopt by means of directives, minimum re-The European Court of Justice emphasised that it was not its quirements for gradual implemen-tation, having regard to the conditions and technical rules ob-

Directive 93/104 required member states to take measures necessary to ensure that every worker was entitled to minimum rest periods, includ-ing an uninterrupted rest period of 24 hours per each seven-day period, plus 11 hours' daily rest (article 5, first sentence) which in principle included Sunday (article 5,

taining in each of the member states.

second sentence). Furthermore, the weekly working time was to be fixed "in keeping with the need to protect the safety and health of workers" at national level (article 6(1)) and the average working time for each sevenday period, including overtime, was not to exceed 48

hours (article 6(2)).
The UK asked the court to annul the directive on the grounds, inter alia, that there was an error as to the choice of

ple of proportionality had been

function to review the expediency of measures adopted by the legislature. Judicial review in annulment proceedings must be limited to the legality of the disputed measure. After examining the scope of article 118a, the court held

that where the principal aim of a measure was the protection of the health and safety of workers, that article must be the legal hase, albeit such a measure might have ancillary effects on the esiablishment and functioning of the internal market. Contrary to the UK'a contention, this could not be given a restrictive interpretation.

In regard to the second sentence of article 5 of the directive, which provided that the minimum weekly rest period must in principle include Sunday, the Council had failed to explain why Sunday, as a weekly rest day, was more closely connected with the health and safety of workers than any othlegal basis and that the princi- er day of the week. The second

sentence of article 5 mus therefore he annulled.

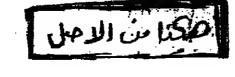
court considered that the dis-rective's principal objective was the protection of the and safety of workers by the imposition of minumum requirements for gradual imple-mentation. It therefore held that the directive, apart from the second sentence of article 5, was properly adopted on the

basis of article 118a. As to the argument that the principle of proportionality was infringed, the court found that in the sphere of the protection of the health and safety of workers, the minimum requirements laid down by the Council might go beyond the lowest level of protection established by the various member states. Moreover the Council had a wide discretion in an area which, as here involved social policy choices and required it to conduct

complex assessments. Within the confines of its limited power of judicial review. the court held that the Council did not commit any manifest error, was not guilty of a misuse of powers and did not manifestly exceed the bounds of its discretion.

Paul Magrath, Barrister





When the civil service must say 'No, minister'

apparatus of the state, to be revved up at their private convenience, then they have only themselves to blame when they are accordingly embarrassed by the disclosure of their actions. We report today on the House of Commons select committee examining legislation to enable the Channel Tunnel rail link to go ahead ostensibly a prejudice-free zone, since it has to settle delicate questions of compensation for Kentish_people whose houses are in the way. Bot now it appears as if ministers have been seeking to manipulate it. These are the colleagues of ministers who yesterday used the Department of Health to produce a "white paper" which is nothing other than a party manifesto. It contains no new policy and amounts to little more than a pre-election statement aimed at protecting the Tories' exposed flank. And that follows closely on the disclosure last weekend that Michael Heseltine wanted to use civil servants to drum up claques to shout

their support of government policies. All this comes from ministers who were ooce chastened enough to bring Lord Nolan in to affirm standards of conduct in public life; who once, on pain of their political lives, had to read Sir Richard Scott's painstaking dissection of the way in which they and their officials had sailed dangerously

of Conservative ministers and party whips behave as if they own the House of Commons. All this, moreover, from ministers who make such a song and dance about the loss of sovereign parliamentary powers to unac-countable Brussels bureaucrats, and who are wont to lecture the Scots and the Welsh on the ideal of parliamentary government which they all stand to lose if they persist in demanding alternative institutions.

It is not enough to say, with world-weary disdain, that such power plays are a natural and inevitable feature of government. In reality, as Nolan and others have recognised, our parliamentary system works best if there are periodic changes of government, and many of these shades of abuse arise from the Conservative Party's complacency in power. A sense that the health of the system depends on alternation in power is broadly diffused among the British public. Seventeen years in power is dangerous. Even ministers, when their better selves prevail, recognise this. Why else did the Government promise last week to table a House of Commons resolution setting out, for the first time in this public fashion, a clear statement of ministers' duties, notably in treating the House of Commons with the respect of the truth?

If a non-Conservative government is elected (and it remains an "if"), it will not of itself expange all traces of

THIS WHITE PAPER IS A
COMMITMENT TO REAL-TERM

ES FOR THE N.H.S.



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON EM 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-298 2000 / 0171-845 2000 FAX 0171-298 2485 / 0171-345 2485

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

the notion that might is right. Labour or Liberal Democrat ministers would also be very tempted to grab the wheels and levers of the Whitehall and parliamentary machine, and manipulate it to their ends. All the more reason to be vigilant. Peter Hennessy's adage that proper procedure is all the constitution we have is essentially correct: our system of government is a covenant based on implicit rules. Among them is the distinction between work that public officials do on behalf of a duly constituted government, and work that serves the

this, or any alternative government, depends on ordinary people believing that government works in the general interest. That sentimeot depeods in turn on the belief that the governmeot's staff (those for whom public service is a career) are disinterested. We may still laugh at that terribly anachronistic picture of Sir Humphrey, but we are glad in the knowledge that he cannot be bought or twisted.

That is the reason why the system will always need figures as bolshie as Sir David Ramsbotham, the chief

a civil servant, but the pleasure we register at his independence of mind is all tho greater given his previous career as a dutiful soldier. If the Home Secretary appointed him thinking him a cat's-paw. all the more credit to him for getting his claws out. Chris Woodhouse of the Office for Standards in Education should onte: the effectiveness of inspection correlates inversely with the deference of inspectors to the whims and wishes of ministers. Such independence is a precious quality: too much and it tips over into unaccountability; too little and it becomes an empty label for lackeys.

Civil servants are not independent

in the way that inspectors are. Rather. their job is to carry out the instructions of those who attain ministorial office and do so with diligence and eothusiasm. If Labour comes to power, it too will want this job definition fulfilled. But civil servants are bound to uphold the law. We rely on them to follow those unseen but vital convections that, for example, censure any attempt to deceive Parliament. Sir Robin Butler's rejection of Michael Heseltine's bid to use civil servants as cheerleaders shows the neutrality convention is still in force. It, and Sir Robin, arc likely to be tested further in the weeks before the election, for example over partisan use of the Government Information Service. Just as Parliaends of party. The very authority of inspector of prisons. Sir David is not ment must be wary of allowing party

loyalty to override the protection of MPs' iodependence of mind, so Sir Robin must be careful to ensure that bis civil servants' professional commitment does not veer towards another kind of commitment altogether.

Deep thought, but very little nous

ne Spade, Two Diamonds, Three Gigabytes, Last year, a computer beat Garry Kas-parov at chess; now at Edinburgh Uni-versity the machines are taking up bridge. But it may take 30 years before machines become a threat to the best human players. Some say computers make bad bridge partners because they cannot cope with the guesswork involved. But human bridge-players also have to guess. The real human advantage lies in our talent for mendacity. Computer hridge players assume their human opponents act rationally. One small hluff, a "false card" or a "psychic" bid, may throw them completely off course. The word "trickery" itself comes from the card table, and trickery exposes the naivety of artificial intelligence. That is why computers are unlucky at cards: no

Tax on free parking will

free drivers from gridlock", 12 November) rightly highlights the fact that Berkshire County Council provides free parking places to its employees, 91 per cent of whom drive to work". But why leave it there, with its suide implication that this is a failing of those local authorities that it is such fun to bash? Why not develop the same employers?

office mileage is often included, perhaps really committed employers - certainly all of those signed up to the Government's Making a Corporate Commitment should alter their free parking perk to paying for free parking at home railway stations. One benefit would be that those rushing to the 9am meeting would at least have read the meeting documents beforehand. ROBERT J JONES

Sir. Just when I thought a Tory MP.

"solution" to overcrowded roads. by his attack on traffic-calming and speed cameras. Why on earth does Mr Redwood think that so

widespread because so many motorists deliberately flout speed restrictions, thereby endangering the lives of pedestrians and other motorists. Yes, it slows drivers down, because that is exactly whatit is meant to do. If the likes of Mr Redwood are irritated by such "clutter", bad-luck

As a mother of three I am heartily sick of people speeding through our village without a moment's thought for who might lie in their path, and wholeheartedly support any measures which force them to slow down. If you don't like it, Mr Redwood, get on your bike.
EMMA HAUGHTON

Sir: I was interested to read John increasing problem of traffic

I found that the majority of such free spaces provided by my thenemployer were used by those who merely used their cars to commute or, worse still, to move a few miles around Loodon on journeys that could be done in less time by tube/bus/walking. My suggestion did not make it into Acbe reports, but I am sure that to treat free parking provisico as a taxable benefit would make a lot of beneficiaries reconsider their-

Energy Policy Studies. Chelmsford, Essex

could say nothing to surprise me, John Redwood offered his

While I support his propositions to get more people on their feet or on public transport. I was incensed measures such as bollards, chicanes many counties and boroughs have "gone mad, spending a fortune" on

these things? Traffic-calming is now

Uplyme Traffic Action Group Uplyme, Devon

Redwood's comments on the evercongestion. It is a shame that Mr. Redwood should criticise councils

end gridlock

Sir: John Redwood ("How I would

I was appointed as a member of the first Acbe (Advisory Committee for Business and the Environment) by two of Mr Redwood's colleagues, Michael Heseltine and Peter Lilley, and constantly urged its Global Warming Working Group to consider recommending that employees' free parking places should be considered as taxable benefits: say, at £20 a day in central London.

communing arrangements.

Considering that free home-to-

especially when they come to the same conclusion - shift people from car to bus and train - that the ex-minister himself does. Bollards, chicanes, red road

surfaces, traffic lights and speed cameras may not be the only instruments for traffic calming, but they are certainly measures that reduce the speed of cars. One man's traffic-calming may well be another man's road rage, but without such traffic-calming measures, h could be another child's road accident.

that are trying to find solutions,

One idea that Mr Redwood did not explore was legislation to reduce the amount of traffic. This week the Road Traffic Reduction Bill has been chosen as a Private Members Bill by the Liberal Democrat MP Don Foster. It will be interesting to see how Mr Redwood reacts.

We all know there is a problem of road traffic congestion. With the Road Traffic Reduction Bill, MPs now have the opportunity to do something constructive about it. I encourage readers to lobby their MPs to support this Bill - especially if that MP is John Redwood MATTHEW TAYLOR MP Liberal Democrat Environment House of Commons

London SWI

Sir: John Redwood recognises that the traffic problem is catastrophic, but thinks the central solution is the removal of a few bollards. London's transport can run much more efficiently - through road pricing. But that is something this government is simply not prepared to face up to: **EMILY BULMAN**

Saro-Wiwa had wealth already

Sir. Ken Saro-Wiwa was executed for campaigning against one of the world's largest corporations, and one of the world's most corrupt and oppressive regimes.
Ken was indeed no saint - who

is? To suggest that he made his fortune from corruption is scurrilous. Saro-Wiwa was one of Africa's most highly regarded anthors, who created and wrote amongst many things the soap opera Basi & Co. This long-running eries is still one of the most watched programmes in the world.

To claim that Saro-Wiwa started his campaign as a "useful route to fame and wealth" when he was already both famous and wealthy is

absurd. Richard North ("Can you be sure of Ken Saro Wiwa?", 8 November) describes Ogouland as just a "patch of the swampy Niger delta". He would think that wouldn't he, flying over the area in a Shell helicopter? The delta used to be known as the breadbasket of Nigeria, such was the fertility of the land and the abundance of fish in the water. Now large parts of the land are so polluted that it will not support crops for years to come,

and the fish stocks have collapsed. It is too late for Ken Saro-Wiwa and the other eight Ogoni men executed one year ago. It is not too late for Shell to exercise its influence responsibly over the Nigerian government to ensure that more proceeds from the

extraction of Ogoni oil go to the Ogoni, and to bring about a fair trial for the Ogoni 19 who are currently in jail on trumped-up

charges. RICHARD BAGNALL Chairman London Ogoni Group Support London SW18

National funding benefits pupils

Sir: Your front-page story and leading article on 12 November tackled the politics of educational

Corrently, the education of all the nation's children is prescribed by a National Corriculum with a National Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs. Performance is monitored by oational league tables and by the national Ofsted framework, while the single biggest budgetary commitment (75 per cent-plus) is teachers' salaries, again paid by

national pay scales.

It really is time that the funding of pupils in schools was related to some national entitlement within the context of a national funding formula. It has only been since the

creation of the grant-maintained sector that schools in different LEA areas have been in a position to compare budgets, most notably via the Common Funding Formula This has shown that children in very comparable schools in very comparable LEA areas can have

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number.

Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk).
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

huge disparity of funding -differences of 20 per cent and more are commonplace. G PHIPSON

Chairman, Association of Heads of Grant-Maintained Schools Chigwell, Essex

Phone museum? Back to Bell

Sir: Further to your article (5 November) about the uncertain future of the unprofitable but remarkable telephone museum that forms part of British Telecom's public sector legacy, you write that a major problem for the museum will be its future lack of a home, and that its current location, in the heart of London, is little known

and less visited. Our flat here on in the centre of Edinburgh shares South Charlotte Street with, at one end, a British Telecom showroom (facing the castle), and at the other end (Charlotte Square), the house where Alexander Graham Bell was born. The only commemoration of this remarkable man in Edinburgh that I know of is the plaque on this

Apart from the Georgian House museum and the headquarters of the Scottish National Trust, Charlotte Square is largely vacated. and tenants are sought. Are there ool numerous arguments for relocating the telephone museum to this place of its origin? PAUL SANKEY Edinburgh

A walk in the German woods

DRY PART LEADER

Sir: L Gregory (letter, 9 November) argues that the "right to roam" is promoted by those who refuse to recognise "that land is not primarily for the occasional

recreation of casual users" I know of no one who would argue that casual recreation is what land is primarily for. The Ramblers' Association certainly does not put forward such an

argument. What we do say is that members of the public should be able to wander freely through woodland and over uncultivated countryside. as long as they treat the land with

due care and respect.
This principle has already been enacted in a number of other European countries. The House of Commons Environment Committee, for example, found that in Germany not only does the law allowing public access to all woodlands work perfectly well, but representatives of private owners of woodland have no objection to

ALAN MATTINGLY Director The Ramblers' Association

Sir: I read in Le Monde recently that the mayor of Larrau, a small town in the French Pyrenees, has banned walkers, on the grounds that "they disrupt the right to bunt" and that this is likely to lead to a breach of public order. This ban lasts until 15 November, the end of the season for shooting palombe, more widely known as the bird of peace. DAVID SHAMASH Wantage, Oxfordshire

An 'agony uncle' before Defoe Sir: Jack O'Sullivan's article on the

lack of "agony uncles" in modern publishing (12 November) highlights an interesting aspect of late 20th-century masculinity in that men are still expected to cope with emotions rather than express them or admit they need help. It was not always thus, as Mr O'Sullivan suggests, but he is incorrect when he states that Daniel Defoe was the first agony columnist.

The problem page was in fact invented by the philanthropic London bookseller and publisher John Dunton, who in 1691 published the Athenian Mercury, a periodical devoted entirely to the 'Nice and Curious Quescons" sent

in by its readers.

Dunton was helped in his project by the all-male "Athenian Society" who got together once a week in a coffee house to devise answers (not always sympathetic) to the "ingenious" quescons on courtship, love, sex and marriage posed by its male and female readers. This reinforces Mr O'Sullivan's argument that men rather than women were the first to deal with personal problems in pript, but it seems a pity to give Defoe the credit for ripping off Dunion's idea in the British Apollo some years later.

The contents of the questions in the Athenian Mercury suggest that, indeed, there is nothing new under the sun when it comes to personal angst, but it is interesting to consider the reasons why in the 1690s, in contrast to the 1990s, men were able to discuss personal matters freely (albeit anonymously) and solicit advice from other men. What went wrong in the interim? HELEN BERRY Jesus College Cambridge

The secret of number 42

Sir: The number 42, established by Cambridge astronomers as the value of the "Hubble Constant" ("Yes, the answer to the universe really is 42", 8 November) is no ordinary number. It is the product of 6 and 7; 6 is one of the very few "perfect numbers", ie those that are the sum of their factors, while 7 is the number of the days of creation. Dr C D V WILSON West Kirby, Mersevside

Sir: The Norwegian Computing Ceotre also came up with the answer 42 for a very small part of the universe, namely the North Sea. The figure 42 turned out to be the whalers' self-allocated 1996 quota. though as this number of whales could not be found, perhaps the Deep Thought computer should spend the next seven and a half million years checking the result. VASSILI PAPASTRAVROU

Sir: On reading your report I went to consult Asimov's New Guide to Science. I found that in the index there was just one reference to Hubble - on page 42. SARTHUR

Noreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire

Sir: If the answer to everything really is 42, as scientists - along with Zaphod Beeblebrox - are now claiming, this accounts for Tony Blair's hair crisis. Mr Blair was 43 on 6 May. ED HOOSON

London N4



- Private Peneral

Back to school for mum and dad

Labour's Jack Straw wants politicians involved in parenting. But, Jack O'Sullivan asks, does the nanny state really know what's best?

ack Straw's idea that telling parents how to look after their children will raise a few wry smiles. Who said the "nanny state" was dead? The Shadow Home Secretary would like the couns to be able to order the parents of delinquents to be properly trained in their caring craft. He also called for a vol-

Yet the state is in no position to point the finger at poor parents. It is, after all, the worst parent of all - talk to a few children who have been in council care and you will often get a tale of misery that can compete with life under the most Dickensian parents. And who trusts guidance from politicians, a group whose failure to regulate their own hours in the House of Commons mark them out as some of the worst offenders in absentee parenting?

Indeed, when politicians start talking about improving families, you wonder are they really just privatising their own responsibilities. You also wonder are they really committed to providing the cash resources for childcare and shorter working hours which would really improve the lot of children. This is, after all, the week in tered its implacable opposition to a 48-hour working week, a limit which would have direct hearing on how much time fathers, in particular, can expect to spend with the children.

Labour is more pro-family

than the Government, support-ing paternity leave and the 48 hour limit. But would Mr Straw back the radical measures adopted in Scandinavia, which give men and women lengthy parental leave during the first years of a child's life?

There is also the question of which model of parenting ought to be adopted. Should we, for example, rely on the authoriuntary network of parent advice groups to be established for the In the 5th century BC, the In the 5th century BC, the Greek philosopher declared: *Come listen now to the good old days, when children, strong to tell, were seen not heard, led a simple life, in short, were well hrought up.

Perhaps John Wesley divined the secret. "In order to form the minds of children," he said, "the first thing to he done is to conquer their will ... The parent who indulges it does the devil's work ... Break his will now, and his soul will live, and he will probably bless you to all

Or was the advice in The Lady a century ago closer to the mark? "One of the most important and beneficial habits that can be taught a child in early life is to keep its mouth shut when sleeping, and indeed at all times, when eating or speaking.

The trouble is that fashions in child-rearing change at an extraordinary rate. In this century, the stages of childhood develview that childhood experience profoundly shapes the adult, have made child-rearing a delicate and complex task. But opinions about how to go about that

task have varied wildly even in Truby King in the Forties and Fifties, who counselled against spoiling a child ("The boy who is picked up and fed whenever he cries soon becomes a veritable tyrant") to Benjamin Spock, who cautioned against the damage that children suffered if they were not cared for at all times (he is still being psychoanalysed in New York at the age

Where, for example, should parenting instructors stand oo the question of disciplining children? There has been a fashion since the Second World War of relaxing the rules that children had been required to obey. But there is now a backlash led by writers such as the Australian expert. Christopher Green, author of Toddler Tuning, calling for tougher controls. Christina Hardyment, the controversial British author of Perfect Parents, is part of a new wave of thinking which challenges recent theories in favour of more traditional, less indulgent parenting.
Yet, despite all the disagree-

ment about the best forms of parenting, there is little dissent about either its importance or difficulties that many families face in raising their children. To this extent, Jack Straw has caught the mood of the times.

It is, however, quite hard to opment, combined with Freud's find anyone to talk to. Antenatal care in this country is good. GP clinics and the National Childbirth Trust offer good courses in preparing for birth. But it is very difficult to



Between the ages of one and they feel about how their parfive, when children start school, ents deal with them. . doned by support services. "Once you have your baby,

you find yourself saying: 'Oh God, what do I do now?" says Hetty Einzig, Development Officer of the Parenting Education and Support Forum. But parenting courses are

beginning to be established around the country. In prisons, for example, they are the most popular courses among young men. Schools are experimenting with training teenagers to care for children. "Little Moss Lads Learn To he Dads," was how one local newspaper reported a pilot scheme in Greater Manchester schools, run by The Children's Society. In five schools, 14-18-year-olds have been debating issues such as different forms of corporal pun-ishment, the problems for chil-

find a parenting course, dren of separation and how Annette Mountford

tive co-ordinator of the Oxfordbased Family Nurturing Network, runs a 15-week programme for families referred by teachers or social workers. It specialises in "positive parentg", offering alternative forms of control to corporal punish-ment and shouting. "Typically, the parents are desperate. They don't know what to do because the kids are running rings around them," she says.

Parents learn how to present a child with a choice. "Say a child is fighting. You present him with a choice. He can play or he can carry on fighting. If he carries on fighting then he has to take two minutes' time out. It might be sitting on the step. It might take an hour to get him through the time out, because it only starts when he is quiet. But

in the end, it's effective. It distances the parent and the child in the heat of the moment. The parent can deal with the child with dignity rather than hitting

him or going out of control."
Mrs Mountford argues that "it would be better if we could get to families earlier and prevent them getting into this downward spiral. If we can deal with children when they are four, we can turn them around quickly. By eight or nine they are very distressed."

Pippin, a charity which for the past two years has provided free advice classes for new parents, is heginning to fill this gap. "All the research shows that parents are facing a great deal of stress," says Penny Henderson, a group facilitator for Pippin, which wants the NHS and councils to fund its services.

"Geographical mobility means that few parents have extended families close by or the

dren as they were growing up. If you have been a computer operator for 10 years or a prison officer or a seaman, you might not have spent a lot of time with

children. You may have forgotten the drudgery of caring for them 24 hours a day or never even known it." The changing fashions in child-rearing can also cause difficulties, she says. "Two

parents may find that they have been brought up with very dif-ferent techniques of child-rear-ing. So they need to sort out what to do. If they themselves had a difficult time in childhood, if they did not have their needs met, then they may need help. When the baby cries, for example, you may be tempted to shove the bottle in its mouth because you may not be able to bear the unreached half-memory of your own neglect."

Pippin's philosophy is based

on the ideas of Daniel Stern, who last year published The Motherhood Constellation. It argues that pregnancy and the period immediately after birth offers a unique opportunity for a mother to deal with problems arising out of her own upbring-ing which can get in the way of providing good care for her child. The same may well be true

What distinguishes all these courses is that they are non-didactic, a point Mr Straw should take on board. They tend to be more concerned about giving parents new ways of thinking about their craft. rather than laying down a fixed path. The childcare specialist, Penclope Leach, demonstrated the dangers of rigid systems when she wrote: "Rearing a child by the book - by any set of rules or pre-determined ideas can work well if the rules you choose to follow fit the baby you happen to have. But even a minor misfit between the two

can be a misery."
The other characteristic is that these courses do not stigmatise parenthood as some sort of pathological condition responsible for all the country's woes. One fear is that Jack Straw, in his zeal to be seen tackling crime, will lump the

blame on parents. He is right to see a connection between crime and parenting. A forthcoming paper by David Utting of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation identifies the following family factors as producing a greater risk of delinquency; poor supervision, harsh or erratic discipline, absence of a biological parent, siblings or parents in trouble with the law. and low family income.

A support programme for low-income mothers in New York involving home visits by professionals giving advice on health, nutrition, child development and parenting, reduced delinquency among the children considerably when compared with the matched control

But if Mr Straw allows parental instruction to be meted out as a punishment to action could have disastrous results. Parental advisors could be stigmatised, just as social workers have become stereotyped as the last group of professionals that parents in difficulty would consult.

Mr Straw's interest in parents is welcome - they need it. But blaming them for all ills is a dated and unhelpful strategy. As David Herbert points out in Setting Limits, Promoting Positive Parenting, it was an ancient Egyptian inscription, 6,000 years ago, which first bemoaned: "Our earth is degenerate. Children no longer obey their parents." Hopefully, Mr Straw will have a more progressive attitude.

Parenting Education and Sup-port Forum: 8 Wakely St. London ECIV 7QE.
Pippin: 'Derwood', Todds

Stevenage, Herts, Family Nurturing Network: Unit 12F, Minns Estate, 7 West Way, Botley, Oxford OX2 OJP.

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Revealed: the secret life of a camera crew



Miles Kington

TV film crew went round the Royal Opera House for a year, filming everything. A TV film crew went round the Victoria and Albert Museum for ages filming everything. TV film crews have been going round royal palaces filming everything for as long as we can remember. Is there nothing left for film crews to follow round?

Yes, there is, as a matter of fact. The one thing that a film crew has never followed round is another film crew, and for the past 12 months have been working with a

that. The result, a 12-part series called In Camera, unerringly captures the feeling of what it's like working with a top quality

Don't believe me?
Here's a typical extract from this epic undertaking:

MORNING, GREY DAWN. A BATTERED **VOLVO ARRIVES AT** THE EDGE OF A LARGE FIELD. TWO MEN GET OUT AND START SHIVERING. THEY ARE JOHN THE CAMERAMAN AND RON THE SOUND MAN. John: Get the stuff out the hack, would you, Ron? Ron: Get your own hlooming stuff out. John: OK, OK, just joking. Keep your hair on ... Where's the van? Ron: What van?

John: Refreshment van. 1 couldn't half murder a cnp of tea. Ron: There's no refreshment

van. This isn't bleeding Pride and Prejudice. We're not on hig-time location.
Juhn: What are we doing,

Ron: We're doing a short piece to camera for Rural Rides Revisited. John: Is that the one where Clive James goes round England on a horse?
Ron: I don't think so. It's the

one where the presenter comes to see how much the English countryside has changed in 200 years.

John: Oh, right. And he faces the camera and says Ron: This countryside has really changed a lot in 200

years ... Juhn: ... and we have to find the bloody pictures to lift his script out of the litter him ... Who is the presenter. incidentally? Ron: Don. John: The one that keeps scratching his mike? Ron: I'll crown him if he starts scratching his mike again today. He must sodding know his blooming mike is stuck in his jersey, so

somewhere else? Ron: I know where I'd like to put it. Juliu: I hope they turn up before the light gets any worse. See that programme on telly last night?

why does he scratch his chest?

John: Why not put the mike

Juhn: Nor did I.
A LONG PAUSE. JOHN
SEIS UP A TRIPOD. HE
TAKES IT DOWN AGAIN.

RON PUTS ON A PAIR OF HEADPHONES. John: What are you recording? THERE IS NO ANSWER. John: (shouting) What Are You Recording? RON SEES HIS LIPS MOVING AND TAKES HIS HEADPHONES OFF Ron: Sorry. Didn't hear you. Had these headphones on. John: What are you recording?

Ron: Nothing.

John: Why the headphones? Ron: Ears cold. John: Fair enough. Ron: Where the hell are John: Who? Ron: Don and the others.

John: Who cares. They'll turn up. AN HOUR PASSES, JOHN AND RON ARE

STILL THERE NOBODY ELSE HAS TURNED UP John: ... Anyway, there were nine of us altogether in the cafe, and we all had a cup of tea each, and when the waitress came, we said.

"Could we have nine separate bills, please, so we can claim separate expenses?" and you should have seen her face! Ron: Did I ever tell you ahout the time this Thai restaurant gave us a receipt for \$3,500 by mistake? John: Yes. Ron: Do you want to hear it

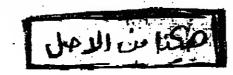
again? Ran: Where are they, for

crying out loud?
A MOBILE PHONE STARTS RINGING. Ron: Phone. Not mine. Must be yours.

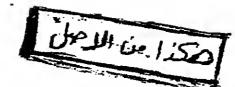
John: (unswering phone). Helio ... Yes ... No, we've been here for hours. Where are you? What field? Hold on ... (to Ron) Get the map, would you! RON GETS THE MAP

PROTESTINGLY, JOHN SPREADS IT OUT. Julin: Yeah ... yeah ... Oh, that field, Right, see you. Ron: What's the story? Juhn: Wrong place, Jump in the car. I'll tell you. (He turns to camera.) You

coming? Hot stuff, ch? And there's another 12 hours where that came from!



ZAINE



the commentators

Labour can gain from the 48-hour watershed

be most telling moment in the aftermath of this week's European Court Judgment upbolding the 48bour week was the Commons intervention of the criminal barrister Sir Ivan Lawrence. Lawrence is a rock-solid and belligerent MP of the old Tory right. He's a populist, all right, but he isn't on the extreme edge of Europhobia by Tory standards. He wasn't, for example, a whipless rebel. Yet be suggested that Europe should be told that "if we are not to get fair play ... we are prepared to leave the European Union". If be had said that five years ago, it would have caused a sensation. On this occasion there wasn't even a murmur of protest.

If oothing else, Lawrence's excitable response is a reminder of just how euphoric his backbenchers - and his super-fickle supporters among Tory editors and proprietors -are now that John Major has a tailor-made European issue to be tough about. It unites the Tory party because it strikes at its ideologically non-interventionist heart.

The Prime Minister has a real case, which is that the 48hour directive was forced through as a Health and Safety measure simply in order to avoid the British veto. It is far from mere fantasy to suppose that he can secure, as part of the inter-governmental negotiations on the EUs future, a political decision that will in effect reverse the court judg-

able episode of BSE for which Douglas Hogg bore the parliamentary brunt in an Opposition censure debate in the Commons yesterday, he could actually win.

What's more the 48-hour week has provided a casus belli, when the IGC threatened to he rather free of others in the run-up to the election. The Foreign Office view, for some time, has been that Britain's EU partners would try to avoid showdowns with Major in the run-up to the election, precisely ply follow them into whatever Euro-sceptic: trench the Prime Minister chose to inhabit. And that if they did, it would be all the more difficult for Tony Blair to do deals if and when he won the election. Here, by contrast, was an issue on which Tony Blair could oot fail. hecause of Labour's natural constituency, to play the pro-European card and so open up clear water between himself and the Tories. And in the process break his own campaign rules by alienating newspapers like the Sun and the Duih Mail which so fulsomely praised

But is this a threat or an opportunity for-Labour? Blair can defend the 48-hour measure on its own merits without buying into the whole employee protection agenda now threatened by the EU social affairs commissioner Padraig. It is a tiny, but rather refreshing, start.



Donald Macintyre

Now that the Tories may have finally found their clear blue water, Tony Blair is free to swim to

Europe

Flynn. But the 48-bour issue may also prove a watershed. Those close to Tony Blair strongly deny it, but there have been distinct signs of a muting of Labour's pro-European rhetoric over the past few months. Take EMU, for example. Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, surfaces from time to time and gives strong and lightly coded indi-cations that he is against going into the single currency in the into the single currency in the first wave - though not with such vebemence that he would have to resign if it happened. Gordon Brown gets a bit cross behind the scenes. But the headlines stick, especially in an approving Euro-sceptic press, and the impression is allowed to run that Labour wouldn't go in during the first wave. Labour might well not go in a first wave, though there is no sign that Tony Blair has made up his mind on the issue. The headlines may be helpful now, but they carry a danger, too: if Labour did want to go in with the first wave, it would be all the more difficult to condition public opinion to the idea in the short time that will be available after the election.

This is only an example: EMU isn't the only show in town, though it is the one currently preoccupying Europe to the exclusion of most others. But it illustrates a larger and, perhaps, counter-intuitive point: that Lahour's best response is attack rather than defence. It's not just that it can-not outflank the Tories in Euroment. In short, and in contrast to the miser- scepticism - as perhaps it can on law and order

- even if it wanted to. Public opinion doesn't exist in a vacuum; it responds to political leadership. And circumstances, as well as conviction, continue to dictate that Labour has to fight the election as the party of Europe.

Labour can legitimately point out that the drain of British influence in Europe has reduced its capacity to secure objectives the Government shares with the other Westminster parties. For example, there is the prosaic but hugely important issue of reforming the the Ivan Lawrences - not to mention the Norman Lamonts or the dozens of MPs who will defy Government policy by ruling out the single currency in their election addresses - actually makes it easier for Labour to argue that Britain has to decide whether it wants to be in or out, and if the answer is in, that Labour is the party to restore Britain's political capital

The Europe envisaged by Tony Blair is not so different, pethaps, from the one that John Major and Kenneth Clarke, left entirely to themselves, would choose. But there is nothing shameful about offering a new start in trying to achieve it. This week, in preparation for his trip to see President Chirac, Blair gave one or two interviews to the Paris press in Freoch.



util last weekend, I'd always associated the soudd of silence with crap scansion and rhythmical word-throttling ("Because a vision soft-lee-er cree-ping/ Left its seeds while I woh-hos slee-ping") and nothing more. How wrong I was.

The scene was Sainsbury's at 10.55 on Sunday morning. I was halfway down the Cereals aisle, trying to persuade my small son (whose requirements in the breakfast

department are as rigorous as a Muslim on Death Row) that he couldn't bave the Nesquik Wheaties packet with the free Krazy Straw inside, when the Tannoy went bing-bong. "Has it is Rebebbrance Sudday." announced an unseen hut adenoidal shelf-stacker, "We bobe our custobers will join us in observig two hinutes of silence at heleven o'clog". Ob right, we thought, silence and continued arguing with the children and consuming away, amid the Cheerios and Strawberry Jammies. Fonr minutes later, the adenoidal youth was back, inglorious and phlegm-drenched but insistent, calling for silence. And miles from the Cenotaph, and the party leaders looking grimly earnest

royal wreath-laying, miles from the veterans' medals and marching crowds, miles from the rain along Whitehall and the grey skies under which melancholy knots of Britons awkwardly grouped around war memorials from Orkney to Over Wallop, miles from processions and churches and barracks, there. in the most brightly-lit,

"soppy-stern", miles from the

and what Larkin called

egregiously modern. flagrantly unpoetic environment you could find on a Sunday morning, there among the rows of dog food and pasta sauces, an amazing thing happened. You could feel the silence spreading across the supermarket, like a great engine winding down. Shoppers who kept on walking were glared into immobility. Querulous children ("But why should. 1...?") were shushed. The

rattle of baskets subsided. The check-out girls, on the point of asking those baffling questions about "Cashback". froze in mid-enquiry. Shoppers proffering credit cards became statues. Right across 24 aisles, from red bananas to white Bordeaux, everything stopped. It wasn't silence exactly, more a kind of

enchantment that settled on us like the magic dust in The Sleeping Beauty. I found myself staring demeotedly at a packet of Nestle's Cinnamon Toast Cruneh, as though meditating on a rainbow. MacNeice's poem came into my head: "God, or whatever means the good/ Be praised that time can stop like this..." It wasn't about remembering the war, it was about locating the peace.

n 1975 there was a shocking, gratuitously violent and controversial movie called Jaws, about a Long Island beach resort being terrorised by a maneating sbark. The film's notnricty wbolly eclipsed a fine but less sensational production that came out in the same mnoth called Jews.



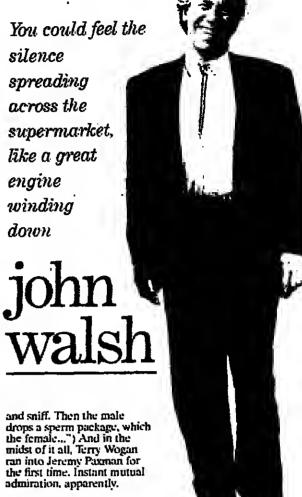
resort being terrorised by a man-eating gefilte fish. Much nicer, but, tragically, nobody wanted to go see it. Later there was Reservoir Dogs, a shocking, gratuitously violent and controversial film about some American hoodlums in black suits coming to blows in a deserted warehouse. Yeah, it was good, but not n patch on Reservoir Doges, a littleseen movie about some Venetian grandees in midnight-blue tunies arguing about which of them should get free passes to the Lido. It was refreshingly free of swearing and

dismemberment, but was sadly ignored. Now, I notice. there's a fuss about Crash, a shocking, gratuitously ete film based on J G Ballard's novel about ghastly people who get a sexual thrill out of imagining themselves deliberately crashing into a car driven by Javne Mansfield. Everyone's calling for it to be banned. It would be a shame if all the attendant celebrity were to oversbadow an earlier work of Mr Bailard's called Criche.

about some ghastly people who get a perverse thrill out of abaodoniog their children in a supermarket play area, so they can whizz unencumbered around the aisles, hoping to collide trolleys with their local MP, and tell them about the need to ban movies they haven't seen because they know - they really know what people want to watch in the cinema...

reat encounters of our time. Two giants of the interview circuit ran into each other, apparently for the first time, on Saturday at the launch party of Redmond O'Hanlon's Congo Journey, the twinklyspectacled zoologist's crazed forzy into the heart of Nowheresville in search of the Lost Dinosaur of Lake Tele. The party was at Pelican House, O'Hanlon's Oxfordshire mansion, and featured a Redmondian slew of literati (Salman Rushdie, Julian Barnes, Will Self, Craig Raine) and scientists (Richard Dawkins, Jonathan Kingdon). Martin Amis couldn't come because he and Isabel Fonseca had just had a baby (Fernanda) but lan McEwan managed to jet over from the swamps of Louisiana, where they're currently filming his story First Love Last Rites (it's set, Clapham). Galen Strawson the Oxford philosopher, bad a headgear looking for trouble. This is not what they're

brief conversation with his old student Will Self, the saurian gourmet, and suffered a crippling anxiety attack immediately afterwards. The scientists looked on with faint distaste as the arty tendency flew around kissing each other unbygienically. Woodering what exactly scientists talk about when off duty, a friend eavesdropped oo Professor Tim Halliday, an expert on the sex life of the newt, and discovered him talking about - just that ("It's all a matter of whip, fan, flash



world has been behaving rather oddly of late. Next week, my old chum Roy Hattersley appears before Bow Street magistrates, accused of letting his hull terrier. Buster, off the leash in St James's Park. whereupon he (Buster, obviously) savaged a greylag goose in a hizzard of feathers and entrails. "I know he chased it," admits the ashenfaced former Labour deputy. in defence of his murderous pet, "but I don't understand why it didn't fly away. That's what birds are supposed to do." And all week the papers have been full of menacing, street-wise foxes in south London, where one has been spotted climbing into an infant's buggy and allegedly biting its face. Indeed, if you believe the tabloids, their new urban identity had emboldened foxes to the point where they're likely to you for the price of a kebab, steal your car and drive around in back-to-front

The London unimal

supposed to do. My road in Duhvich is regularly patrolled by a brace of foxes, but they never show signs of wanting to climb on anything except a hin and eachother. What intrigues me about

the hitten-buby story is the iosistence of a chap called Trevor Williams, of the Fox Project, that the child's injuries "are totally inconsistent with a fox-bite... They sound much more like a cat's scratch." So, let me get this straight, Inspector. When the Norbury fox was found sitting on the scratched baby. it didn't mean the fox was responsible for the scratches; it meant a cat had done the evil deed, then scarpered leaving the fox holding, as it were, the smoking gun... Bloody hell. Non-operationa greylag geese, innocent fallguy foxes and infanticialal pussies. Time to call in Redmond O'Hanlon..



Targeting the new proletariat

be working class has completely vanished from the political vocabulary. What was once called "the proletariat" - perceived as an active agent of its own future—has marched off the stage forever.

In old black-and-white movies, you can still

get a sense of what the expression used to conjure up: crowds on a grey day outside a football stadium, workers in their hundreds on the picket line at the factory gate. Now it has all dis-

solved into history.

The people, of course, are still somewhere to be found. There hasn't been a bolocaust of the cloth-capped section of the population. At the bottom end, they have simply been renamed, becoming the unemployed, the under-privileged, the poor. These are the code-oames for the victims of our times, those no longer seen as actors capable of changing the direction of

Higher up the ladder, the senior echelons of the proletariat have been transmogrified into an mtriguing and potentially dangerous end-of-cen-tury phenomenon, the endlessly expanded middle class - now the chief participant in the unrolling scenarios of all the political parties in

The presence of this populist middle ground, ideologically unattached, is hardly a new phenomenon in Latin America, huge Catholic parties, such as the Christian Democrats in Chile. once occupied this central position, as did the authoritarian "labourist" movement of General Perón (pictured right) and his successors in Argentina. Such parties embraced a disparate collection of trades and interest groups, familiar in Britain in the composition of the old Liberal Party: small farmers rather than great landowners, small businesses rather than large corporations, and a sprinkling of the professions.

But large chunks of the populist chentele came from the upwardly mobile and unionised working class, as well as from the ranks of the public class, as well as from the ranks of the public class. hic sector: the teachers, the health workers, the middle management of the great nationalised industries, even the junior officers in the armed

The lineaments of a political phenomenon that once looked absolutely familiar in Latin America can now be traced out in the British landscape. The coalition of forces that the Liberals once called their own has become -vastly expanded - the area to which Labour and Conservatives pay most attention. And with reason,



Could middle-class insecurity open the way to a British version of right-wing populism, asks Richard Gott

growing larger and politically ever more significant, it is also becoming dramatically squeezed - by falling incomes and eroded prestige. The old question of the proletarianisation of the middle class is now high up on the political agenda. The Labour Party must be hoping that this ide-ologically unanchored group in society will move in their direction. Yet it could equally well drift to the extreme right.

Anecdotally, everyone is familiar with the problem. At the very moment when large numbers of people are out of work, those in work have to work twice as hard, Long hours, evenings spilling into weekends, uncertainties about the future, the need to run ever faster to stand in the same place - these are the common experiences of almost every workplace. For women, in particular, the endless juggling of work and home - the family, the school and the shopping ceo. published last year, depicts the fate of the vic-

because at the very moment when this group is tre - creates a sense of oppression undreamt of

by earlier generations. This experience of exploitation and uncertainty forms the background of several recent studies on the culture and oppressions of work. Charles Handy, pioceer of "upside-down thinking", has specifically targeted the employees of large corporations, explaining to them what they already sense - that their world is chang-ing dramanically. "Like the centrally planned economies of the old communist world," he writes in The Age of Unreason, "these centrally planned organisations are also discovering. that the old ways which worked quite well in the past are no longer cost-effective. They have been obliged to rethink the way they get work

Anthony Sampson, in his book on the internal crisis of the corporations, Company Man,

tims of reshaped capitalism io tragic tones. The "company man", once upbeld as the most significant social creation of the 20th century, is now perceived as "the most vulnerable" member of the middle class, liable to be cast on the scrapheap at any moment - when once he had

a job for life.

"Behind all the language of downsizing and reducing bead counts," writes Sampsoo, "were individual buman tragedies which received little publicity or sympathy. Dignified figures in the office suddenly found themselves no longer noticed or valued as they were ousted by highly paid young upstarts; they could be asked to clear their desk in a morning, and he shut out from the building which had been their village for half

While the collapse of Communism and of the Soviet Union clearly marked an eod to the era of the big state hureaucracies, it also seems to have prefigured, in some strange symbiotic way, the end of the large capitalist corporation as well. Nor is the "company man" alone. His fate has been paralleled within the institutional ruins of the oationalised industries and the welfare state. The serried ranks of Nupe and Nalgo, the ill-paid membership of the public service unions, have undergooe similar experiences in the past decade, with very little in terms of a financial

Middle management has also suffered. There was a time when a job in the state sector brought a certain sense of status - working for the public good, with perhaps a medal at the end to make up for a meagre salary. Now those insubstantial

rewards have gone. The present sense of economic insecurity and social uncertainty among the middle class might in theory lead it towards a progressive politics. Yet its chief characteristic at present is an acute distrust of the political system. Its political alienation is just as likely to fuel a populism of the right. Britain has been relatively protected from the growth of right-wing movements elsewhere, but there is no guarantee that we will not see the emergence of a home-grown Jean-Marie le Pen, or Jorg Haide, or Newt Gingrich.

Any fresh political programme in the post-socialist era will, of course, have to build on popular discontents wherever they are to be found. But if the left does not try to locate them and remedy them - and perceive that both labour and capital are in trouble - the task will certainly fall



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business & city BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Football moneyspinner: Murdoch team in pay-per view talks with clubs as league chief's £100,000 bonus is revealed

Premiership set for £10-a-match BSkyB deal

and Patrick Tooher

BSkyB executives are holding informal talks with several top football clubs about introducing pay-per-view broadcasts of live Premiership games as early as

The talks, which are still at an early stage, could see Saturday matches transmitted on a payas-you-go basis at £10 a time, generating millions for Sky and the Premiership. Currently, only Sunday and Monday matches are televised live on the Sky Sports channel

Meanwhile, it emerged last night that Premiership chief executive Rick Parry, who negotiated the recently agreed four-year, £670m exclusive pay-TV deal, was paid a bonus of more than £100,000 upon its signing. The hroadcast contract, bowever, has not yet been ratified by all the clubs.

Under the contract, which only covers subscription television rights and runs from the start of next season, the Premiership agreed to discuss the introduction of pay-per-view after two years. But sources at the league said last night there was nothing to stop earlier. moves to the new format.

"Pay-per-view is always an option," said a spokesman for the league. "It is an on-going part of the present and new contracts, but no date bas been set for its introduction and it can't be done without the blessing of the Premiership." He said no deal

more than 40,000 last month to

2,030,000, the lowest for five and

a half years. The headline total

is almost certain to fall below

the symbolic 2 million level

Even though the official fig-

ure understates the true level of

joblessness, the undeniable ev-

idence that the labour market

is getting tighter alarmed the financial markets. They reckon

that base rates will have to rise

again, although opinions were

divided about whether this

would be before or after the

Clarke, Chancellor of the Ex-

chequer, and Eddie George,

Governor of the Bank of Eng-

land, confirmed yesterday that

Minutes of the 23 September

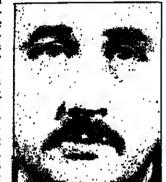
within the next month or two.

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

According to football and broadcasting sources, the early move to pay-per-view is being driven in part by fears that the Restrictive Practices Court could intervene, insisting that the exclusive deal he torn up, and replaced with contracts be-

ween Sky and individual clubs. Sky is keen to ensure it retains rights to British foothall, which have been the prime engine of its spectacular growth in the UK market. According to the most recent figures, there are 5.65 million Sky subscribers, of whom two-thirds take the premium sport channels.

Premiership chairmen are also seeking to develop the pay-per-view market as soon as possible to cash in on revenues that could exceed £2.5hn a year. It is understood that top clubs, including Newcastle and Manchester United, are leading efforts to build a pay-per-view



Parry: Received £100,000

for higher rates a month before

A further rise in interest

would trigger a round of mort-

gage increases. The Nation-

wide on Tuesday became the

first big lender to increase its

The gilts market weakened

yesterday, weighed down by

yesterday's evidence of the fizz

in the economy and the fear that today's inflation figures will

show the target measure climb-

ing above 3 per cent. Sterling

gained more than 2 pfennigs to

count in October was much big-

ger than expected. The Office

for National Statistics said

was due to the introduction of

the Joh Seekers' Allowance

But even allowing for that dis-

The fall in the unemployment

end at DM2.4921.

and will be reversed.

the Chancellor agreed.

standard mortgage rate.

The number of people claiming rates, following the quarter

unemployment benefit fell by point rise earlier this month,

meeting between Kenneth about 10,000-15,000 of the drop

the Bank had started to press tortion, there was a broad-

STOCK MARKETS

as much as £90m a season. even after it splits the revenues with Sky. "The sooner it happens, the better off everybody is going to be," a source close to the cluh said yesterday.

Early results from France, where pay-per-view football was introduced this season, est take-up rates can reach as high as 20 per cent of subscribers equipped to receive the service.

The success of Sky's early experiments with pay-per-view boxing, including last weekend's contest between Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield, was also being seen by both Sky and the Premiership as proof that British viewers are willing to pay extra for premium sporting events. More than 420,000 paid up to £14.95 to watch the On the existing analogue sys-

tem, where capacity remains limited, full-scale pay-per-view movies and sport would be dif-ficult to accommodate. However, selected football matches, for instance crucial league mes, could be shown on a trial basis late this season.

Next year, Sky intends to launch its digital satellite service. offering up to 200 channels, of which perhaps 60 will be reserved for pay-per-view ser-

If the court rules against the current contract, other broadcasters could return to the fray, seeking their own deals with the Premiership. The court is ex-

Falling jobless figure alarms markets

recent trend. The total not ad-

justed for seasonal variations

The number of claimants

was lower in all regions and for

men and women. It bas declined

across all age groups, and long-

term unemployment also fell.

Other figures for vacancies.

1,977,000.





come clear.

increase in January







The club suffered a boardroom

bust-up last week, which saw the

resignation of director Peter

Middleton, head of Salomon

Middleton, a former chief exec-

up 2p at 119.5p. The shares were

"delusions of grandeur".

However, Mr Lang's recent decisions to block several takeovers in other industries, including two bids for South West/2 Water from rival water compa-

minor concessions.

nies, has heightened speculation that the Bass/Carisberg-Tetley deal may also be blocked. .. There is also speculation in political and City circles that Mr Lang may choose to refer two

OFT set

to deliver

report on

Bass deal

to Lang

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, is due to receive the Office of Fair Trading's long-awaited report on the £200m takeover of Carlsberg-

Teley by Bass tomorrow.
The OFT is expected to call for the merger to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the grounds that it would give Bass 38 per cent of the brewing market. The

merger would also create a

group with more than 4,000

pubs controlling four of

Britain's top ten beers, making it Britain's biggest brewing

group.
The deal might still escape an MMC referral if Bass gives un-

dertakings to dispose of pubs, breweries and perhaps brands.

The takeover of Courage by Scottish & Newcastle, a deal which gave it 31 per cent of the market, was cleared with only

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CONT.

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Michael Harrison

US bids for regional electricity companies to the MMC. The Bass/Carisberg-Tetley takeover was finally unveiled in August after months of talks be-

Brothers' European operations. ween the two sides. Under the merger, Bass will Mr Bates said yesterday that Mr acquire Allied Domecq's half share in Carlsberg-Tetley for utive of Lloyd's of London, had

£200m, The Danish brewer Carlsberg would then inject its half of the business into Bass Brewers along with £20m in cash in return for a 20-per cent stake in

the enlarged group.

Bass has 4,000 pubs. In addition to that, it would continue to supply the Allied estate, which also consists of 4,000 pubs, giving it control of 70 per cent of all the beer and lager drunk in Britain.

Among the lager brands it would control are Carling Black Label, Tennents Extra and

If the deal is blocked, then Carlsberg has undertaken to buy Allied's half stake for £110m. Allied would also pay Bass £30m in compensation. There was some surprise that

the Scottish & Newcastle takeover of Courage was allowed through with such siender undertakings.

The Department of Trade and Industry only required S&N to dispose of 115 pubs and free a further 1,000 pubs from the tie.

A bundred years ago there were 1,500 brewing companies in the country, but if the Bass deal goes through it will leave the three big brewers and the ing for four in every five pints brewed in Britain.

Chelsea in talks to raise £30m

Nigel Cope

Chelsea Village, the parent company of Chelsea football club, said yesterday that it is in talks with several parties to secure £30m of fresh financing. The funds will be used to continue the development of the club's West London ground, Stamford Bridge.

The development work includes a new west stand, a sports and leisure centre, a ho-

based fail in the number of manufacturing employment climb in employment has be-

picture of a buoyant jobs mar-

ket. The number of vacancies

month, although exaggerated by

a new computer system, re-

turned to the highest level since

ated in manufacturing industry in September, taking the level

of employment in the sector to its highest for nearly four years.

The underlying increase in av-crage earnings remained at 4

per cent in the year to Sep-

tember. However, actual earn-

ings growth climbed to 4.6 per

cent, the fastest rate of in-

crease since the end of 1992.

Although the official

claimant count underestimates

the number unemployed - by

around 150,000 compared to the

total on the international defi-

nition of unemployment - the

general picture of a rapid fall in

unemployment and a slower

An extra 13,000 jobs were cre-

claimants that exceeded the and earnings painted the same

crept below 2 million to advertised in JobCentres last

May 1988.

tel and a railway station near the ground. Negotiations are continuing with Railtrack over a Stamford Bridge station.
The club declined to say yes-

terday whether the fund-raising discussions were with individuals or institutional investors. However, Chelsea's group secretary, Alan Shaw, said: "The discussions have gone past the preliminary stages and one

The economy is steaming,"

said Paul Mortimer-Lee, chief

economist at investment bank

Paribas, predicting a base rate

Geoffrey Dicks at NarWest

Markets agreed but said: "There's an election coming up. The Chancellor will hold off."

At the 23 September monetary

meeting Mr George argued for

a quarter-point increase and said

a delay might make it necessary

to tighten policy more sharply. The Bank's Inflation Report last

week warned that another move

would be needed at some stage.

A few City economists remain

unconvinced of the need for

higher rates but think we might

get them anyway. "Inflation is benign and growth is around trend. I would be surprised if the

Chancellor were to raise rates

again, hat with the Bank piling on the pressure he might," said

Simon Briscoe at Nikko.

Mr Shaw said it was not yet clear if any shares in Chelsea would change hands. Ken Bates, the clnb's chair-

man, holds a significant stake. Matthew Harding, the vice chairman and benefactor who was killed in a belicopter crash last month, controlled 25 per cent. The news of the £30m fund-

raising will be a big boost to the club, which was rocked by. Harding's death. The loss cast doubt on Chelsea's ability to

> Hambros claims investors' support

Peter Rodgers Financial Editor

Hambros said yesterday it beheved its shareholders were staying loyal to the board in the be a "full-time working chairface of a campaign to force a break-up led by Jim Mellon, chief executive of Regent Pacific, the Hong Kong investment

Sir Chips Keswick, Hambros chief executive, said: "We bave seen no sign of support for Mr Mellon's suggestions.

Regent, which last contacted Hambros by phone just over a week ago, owns 3 per cent of the group and said last month it was meeting other shareholders to put its case. It has been pressing for a sale of the Hambro Countrywide estate agency and financial services offshoot and other subsidiaries, but Sir Chips dismissed this. "We are builders,

not hreakers," he said.

Sir Chips is to become chairman next July when Lord Hambro retires, but the chief executive post is not going to be man" rather than chairman and chief executive.

Michael Sorkin, a deputy chairman responsible for the investment group, and Charles Perrin, chief executive of the banking subsidiary, will continue to report to Sir Chips when he becomes chairman. The funds business bas £7bn under management.

Sir Chips was announcing a a return to the black at Hamhros, with a profit for the half year to September of £35m before tax, compared with a loss of £7.7m a year ago. The swing was helped by a sharp fall in bad debt provisions to £5.9m from £24.6m a year ago.
Investment column, page 23

33 staff sacked as Diamond restructures

7

election.

BZW yesterday sacked 33 people from its hack office, sales, trading and secretarial staff as part of the radical restructuring of its global markets operation under Bob Diamond The sackings come hard on

the heels of the departure of sevcral senior executives following a strategic review by Mr Dia-mond, the recently appointed chief executive of global markets.

Klaus-Peter Moeritz, head of foreign exchange trading in the UK and Europe, also left

yesterday. He was originally recruited by Alex von Ungem-Stemberg, the deputy chief executive of the markets divisinn who resigned on Monday.

Mr Diamond, who joined

BZW in July on a remuneration package that could net him more than £5m in the next few years, yesterday hired Paul Thrush, former head of foreign exchange at Nationsbank, to head of foreign exchange. He replaces Mr Moeritz, but assumes a wider role.

The global markets division is receiving the brunt of the re-

1996 Low Yield (%)

structuring of the entire BZW group taking place under Bill Harrison, who was poached from Robert Fleming and took over as chief executive in Sep-

Senior executives who have left include Yann Gindre, head of debt origination. Nick Carter, head of swaps marketing, Paul Ellis, head of structured products, and Roh Jolliffe and Steve Honesjoint, heads of debt syn-Mr Harrison said yesterday:

"We are going through something of a change there [in the

markets division. That business is the one which has been through the most change in the last few months."

He is in the process of divid-ing BZW into three main divisions - markets under Mr Diamond, equities under Steve Harker and a newly created investment hanking division, which will soon he without a chief executive as Graham Pimlott is due to become head of strategic planning for the entire Barclays group. In addition, Mr Harrison has

set up a capital markets unit run

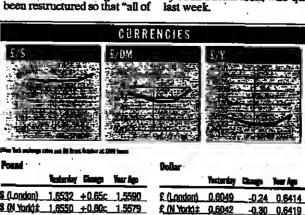
by Amir Eilon, who already works for BZW.

Mr Harrison said: "We've got equity capital markets, debt capital markets, structured products, and global deriva-tives. What we've done is hring that together and that reports in to the investment banking, equities and the markets husiness. We will have our financing products co-ordinated in such a way we can look at financing products for clients

across all our client range." Investment banking has also our major clients will have the benefit of whole range of activities in a co-ordinated way"

Mr Harrison said. "I've got some very hardworking, capable people. We just want to make sure we are serving our people in the right way. There are no short cuts to

Mr Harrison yesterday hired Roger Davis, a former col-league from Robert Fleming, to become chief executive of BZW in Asia. That role was vacated by John Richardson, who quit



Bay's change Change (%) 1 Tex Long Stead 3632.30 4073.10 4.02 7.71 7.93 4015.30 3.54 5.31 <u>5,59</u> \$ (N York): 1,6550 +0,80c 1.5579 1816.60 3.91 -0.1 2022.10 0.38 0,63 DM (London) 2,4910 +2,24pt 2,1847 DM (London) 1.5088 +0.77pt 1.4024 Germany 5.91
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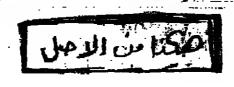


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COMMENT

the directive changing

'It is difficult to see

anything at all in

well-run, efficient

companies that do

employees to work

not compel their

longer hours

than they want'

48-hour rule won't change the way we do business

Since journalists are exempt from the Working Time Directive, having been mysteriously classed among the "essential workers" to whom it should not apply, we are more than qualified to comment on the matter from a wholly impartial point of view.

A veritable forest of misinformation has

appeared in the 48 hours since the European Court of Justice announced its ruling against Britain, truth being one of the first casual-ties of any war with Brussels. One of the more impressive is the Institute of Directors' unsubstantiated estimate that it will cost British industry £12bn. But there have also been some telling facts and one of them is that 6 million employees – a quarter of the working population – are exempt along with media types, ranging from bus drivers, trawlermen and trainee doctors to managing directors and domestic servants.

As many as 4 million reconle may now be

As many as 4 million people may now be working more than 48 hours. However, the more important statistic, according to the British Chambers of Commerce, is that 91 per cent of these do so voluntarily. Nothing in the directive will change that.

Indeed, it is difficult to see the directive changing anything at all in well-run, efficient companies that do not compel their employees to work longer hours than they want -something accepted by the Confederation of British Industry despite its belligerent noises. The idea that the directive is in some way back-door social engineering forced on

Britain in breach of its opt-out from Maas-

tricht, is likewise hard to sustain. Britain approved and endorsed the European legislation under which the directive has been introduced long before the opt-out from Maastricht became an issue.

As Peter Sutherland, the chairman of Goldman Sachs and former director general of Gatt, observed earlier this week, those who oppose the Working Time Directive, and the Social Chapter and indeed a single currency on grounds of sovereignty are ques-tioning Britain's membership of the European Union. Sovereignty was ceded when Mrs Thatcher signed the Single Eu-

Appearing to be told how to run their companies by a court based in Luxembourg un-derstandahly sticks in the craw of most businessmen. But they should hear in mind that the more the EU is treated like an à la care menu, the more they risk playing into the hands of those who would pull Britain out altogether or leave it hopelessly marginalised. That would be a true cause for

Now why did Lord Stevens of Ludgate choose to reveal his reduced role at United News and Media (he'll be stepping down as executive chairman at the annual general meeting next year to become part-time chairman) via the medium of an exclusive interview with the Financial Times, published yesterday? It's called news management, something which, as a long-serving newspaper proprietor, Lord Slevens ought to know a hing or two about.

Knowing this newspaper and others to be pursuing the rumour that Lord Hollick was trying to force him to accept a reduced role, salary and expenses, Lord Stevens plainly thought it would be better to get his side of the story out first through the time-honoured method of a selective leak. He was right.

What we got was the usual guff about not wanting to go on for ever, having other things to do, etc, etc. The FT gave him as warm a send-off as he could have hoped for and in the process he defused the rest of the pack.

Unfortunately his action was also perilously

close to being illegal. The Financial Services
Act specifically forbids through the Stock Exchange listing rules the partial release of
price-sensitive information, even when those doing the leaking are not making any mnney out of it. It seems that when it comes to company

affairs, the black arts of spin have become a mighty dangerous thing. But for the fact that the rules are ambiguous on a decision of this sort, and that United shares, although firmly up on the news, did not move excessively, United would have been in trouble. As it is, the Stock Exchange is rushing through a change in the rules to close the loophole. From now nn the selective leaking even of information as apparently in-nocuous as a director's decision to stand down will be barred.

It might be tempting to think of this as fur-ther evidence of the way regulation and bureaucracy is swamping the City and

But it would be wrong to do so. It is all very well and jolly nice to be the recipient of a selective leak, whether you are a newspaper or a dealer, but it doesn't make for fair and efficient markets. As for manipulating the press, good luck to him. Lord Stevens certainly succeeded in outmanoeuvring us. We had a scoop and he deprived us of it.

It is hard to exaggerate the anxious concern in the City over the software teething problems of Crest, the City's new share settlement system. Crest was set up by the Bank of Eng-land to replace the Stock Exchange's ill-fated Taurus clearing system. Nnw an independent company, Crest announced last week that it was delaying the entry of a number of FTSE 100 companies to early next ear to give a breathing space while the probems are sorted out.

Crest's board is to meet at the end of the month to have another look at progress. One of the options is to reduce further the rate at which companies transfer to the system.

That would delay full operation beyond the target date of next April.

plete overhaul of the software. If there were the remotest prospect of that, the Securities and Investments Board would have in intervene, because of the threat to the health of securities firms of any serious settlement

Some firms go further, and say that de-laying a few more companies' entry into Crest is not enough. Instead they believe the commissioning programme should be suspend-ed altogether while Crest is sorted out. That means the winding down of the old Talisman settlement system would have to be put on hold, to avoid total chaos. The loss of face for the City and especially for the Bank would be hard in bear, so soon after the Taurus fi-

Whether all this is exaggeration or not. it is nonetheless symptomatic of extreme, videspread and very real concern. Crest is not yet operating at more than 25 per cent

of capacity.

If it is having severe software problems now, what's it going to be like when it runs at full steam? Claims that it knows how to put the problems right are greeted with justified scepticism.

One of the problems is that Crest has simply not given customers enough information to convince them that the software can be put right. Unless Crest can reassure customers soon, it will face open rebellion from Some firms believe there is now a real danger of the system failing, for example if there is heavy trading after the Halifax is floated vestors who the system is set up to serve. the brokers, companies, registrars and in-

Inquiry into **United's** part-time chairman

Mathew Horsman

The Stock Exchange is planning to tighten rules on the disclosure of material changes to the role of company directors, after confirmation yesterday that Lord Stevens, the chairman of United News & Media, will work only part-time from next

News of Lord Slevens' plans, revealed in an interview in the; Financial Times, was the subject of Stock Exchange inquiries yesterday into whether the company should have issued a formal slatement about the chairman's diminished man-

United's shares rose 11p on the news, receding later in the day to close at 685p, up 7.5p. According to a senior regulator, United would have been obliged to make a statement to the market had a new rule, to be implemented on Monday, been in

effect this week. The rule will state that "any important change in the functions or executive responsibilities of a director" must be notified as soon as it is decid-

Changes to Lord Steven's job will result in a sharp reduction in his £510,000 annual salary and generous expense ac-

Lord Hollick, the chief executive, was believed to have

for some mooths. Up until now United has consistently refused to comment publicly on the matter, even going so far as to deny the plans outright in off-the-record comments recorded by The Independent just prior to the publication of the Financial Times

been seeking such an outcome

The Stock Exchange formal-ly gave consideration yesterday to whether the leaking of the news constituted partial dis-closure, which might have been against the rules. Confirmation that Lord

Stevens will work only part-time from May is believed to be a first step toward his eventual resignation from the company. Sources close to United

claimed last night that Lord Stevens had a "lavish lifestyle and a generous expense ac-

One source said: "David Stevens knew it was time the gravy train came to an end. He was one of the last true Fleet Street spenders.

United declined to comment on the level of Lord Stevens' expenses, or on suggestions that he would be paid just £150,000 a year in his part-time position. Information on his new salary



Lavish lifestyle: Lord Stevens' £510,000 annual salary and expense account will be cut

published, a company spokes-

A source close to company said "a drop in his remuneration would be only natural in line with his changed duties". Lord Hollick is widely viewed

when the next annual report was strategy, while Lord Stevens' in HTV, the ITV company, in role has been increasingly mar-

Uoder Lord Hollick's leadership, United has recently expanded further in the exhibitions sector, with its £592m purchase of Blenheim, would only be publicly available as the key architect of United's and taken a 20 per cent stake

a step most observers believe will lead to a full bid.

"The fact that the share price rose on this news is proof the market sides more with Lord Hollick than with Lord Stevens," one leading media analyst said yesterday.

East Midlands agrees £1.3bn Dominion bid

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

The long awaited takeover hid for East Midlands Electricity finally materialised yesterday when the regional electricity firm recommended a £1.3bn cash offer from Dominion Resources, the US utility company. But there were growing doubts in the markets that this latest bid, and last month's £766m offer from US-owned CE Electric for Northern Electric, would be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. "This dramatically in-creases the chances of an MMC

reference," a leading electricity analyst said last night. The fears kept East Midlands shares well below the 670p offer price. The shares closed in Northern Electric slipped a further 15p to 593.5p. If both bids go through, it would bring to five the number of regional electricity suppliers owned by American companies.

In addition, it would leave just three of the 12 privatised regional electricity companies still in independent hands with separate stock market listings: London, Yorkshire and Southern. One theory is that the regulator, Professor Stephen Littlechild, will ask for the bids to be blocked because he would have too few quoted companies to use to make share price

comparisons. Thomas Capps, Dominion's chairman, and Norman Askew, chief executive of East Midlands, spoke to Professor Littlechild on the phone yesterday. However Mr Capps had earlier insisted he saw no reason his bid should be referred to the MMC.

"We see no reason for it and

Northern Electric Dec 94 | £1.2bn Scottish Power July 95 | £2,4bn Eastern Electricity July 95 | £2.4bn Sept 95 £1,8bn North West Water Sept 95 | 31.1bn Southern company Sept 95 £1,95bn Blocked by DTI PowerGen . Midlands Electricity Southern Electric Oct 95 £2.8bn National Power Blocked by DTI Central and South Welsh Water Dec 95 | £900m Midands Bectricity. May 96 21.7bn Northern Electric CE Electric Oct 96 | £766m **Dominion Resources** East Midlands Electricity _ Nov 96 £1.3bn Agreed

we don't think it will. There's plenty of data oul there," Mr the UK."

offices for the first time today, claimed to have bold ambitions for the group. They are likely to encourage the planned expansion into the domestic gas and electricity in the rest of the UK when competition arrives in 1998.

Mr Askew disclosed that East Midlands would be selling to homes in parts of the south of England in competition trials in the new year. Mr Capps said the UK was further ahead by five or six years in introducing utility competition, "The UK is a good learning laboratory for

us," he said. In addition, East Midlands could launch a range of mortgage and consumer credit products, which Dominion sells in the US. Linwood Robertson, the group's senior vice-presi-dent, claimed Dominion was one of the largest providers of

However, both companies

Dominion directors, who will said the deal would have oo imface further cuts in an on-going restructuring programme. East Midland's workforce has almost halved from 8,684 in 1993 lo about 4,500 today. Dominion had confirmed it

was considering making an of-fer for East Midlands last week but said at the time it was out prepared to pay much more than 608p a share. Talks aimed at securing a recommended of-fer lasted through Tuesday night, with both sides agreeing they had arrived at a fair price.

The company had already given away 266p to shareholders in the form of a special div-idend worth £1.20 and its share of the stake in the National Grid of £1.46p a share.

Mr Capps said: We bar gained hard and they bargained hard. I don't think we stole it and I don't think they gave it one of the largest providers of new mortgages in the US. He explained: "Obviously it's some-sonable.

SIB speeds up pensions review

The Securities and Investments Board moved yesterday to revive its faltering pensions misselling review by announcing that it was simplifying the way insurance companies obtain in-formation needed to process

The SIB initiative came as the Personal Investment Authority. the frontline regulator respon-sible for ensuring the review is carried out, formally admitted that barely 24,000 cases had been assessed of the 446,000 identified as priorities.

Only 6,227 people have been offered redress, worth a total of £50m. Of the 58,000 priority trade bodies. cases identified by indepen-dent financial advisers, redress has been offered to 561 and accepted by 99.

PIA. said: "The measures outlined today should enable firms to increase their rate of progress significantly. PIA will be concentrating its attention on those firms with the most to do." The SIB initiative is aimed at

clearing a serious information log-jam, which insurers claim has prevented them from assessing the losses incurred by the vast hulk of cases so far identified.

jointly devised by the Association of British Insurers (ABI) and the National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF), the insurers' and pension schemes However, both sides have

complained that the questions were far too detailed and involved their staff in meaningless loe Palmer, chairman of the statistical exercise.

SIB's paper says that insurers can now make rough calculations based on a pension scheme's information booklet, plus simple additional infor-

questions, insurers will now have to ask only eight. The regulator claimed that, while not totally accurate, the new system, devised by accountancy firm Price Waterhouse, was not biased towards Until oow, pension providers life companies or policyholders, have relied on a questionnaire A separate validation by consultants Lane Clark & Peacock

mation. Instead of asking 200

backs SIB's assertion. The proposals were wel-comed by the NAPF and the ABI as an important contribution to resolving the mis-selling scandal, more than two years after a review first identified the problem. The British Bankers' Association, many of whose pensions, also backed the SIB

However, both Legal & Gen-eral and Chambers Townsend Consultancy, a provider of pension redress systems to life companies, warned reinstatement would still pose a problem even after estimates of actual losses were made. Pension schemes are likely to require far more detailed information before re-admitting former members, it was claimed.

If so, the log-jam would break only to re-assemble a few months down the line while increasing pressure on the regulator to opt for a top-up to the personal pensing instead, it was claimed.

Another big worry concerned the regulator's decision to force policyholders into becoming more involved in the compenmembers have sold personal sation process than hitherto.

Telewest talks to Comcast UK about takeover

Mathew Horsman Media Editor

Telewest, the country's secondlargest cable operator, is in talks with rival company Comcast UK that could lead to an agreed takeover within weeks.

The move, which follows last month's four-way cable merger between Mercury, Nynex CableComms, Bell Cablemedia and Videotron to form Cable & Wireless Communications, now the country's largest operator, came as no surprise to analysts last night.

"Telewest was always going to be involved in the oext wave of consolidation." said one media analyst. "And it was very likely to be an acquirer.

A spokesman for Telewest said: "We have no comment on any plans to acquire, merge or take over any company. Sources at Comcast also declined to comment. Comcast shares rose 8 per

pany's improving financial performance. Analyst said word of Telewest's interest had also percoated through the market.

Telewest shares cable franchises with Comcast in London, and has jointly developed marketing campaigns with the

Comcast has 228,000 cable television subscribers and 239,000 residential telephony subscribers. It has investments m four franchises, including

London, Cambridge and Birm-

ingham, with a total potential

reach of 1.6 million homes. Analysts said last night that Comcast was an obvious target for Telewest, because of the franchises the companies share. They added that Telewest had been keen in regain the initia-tive in the cable industry, following the C&W deal which pushed Telewest into second position in the market.

General Cable, which is also thought to be a likely takeover target, could also figure on Telewest's wish list, although it is expected to fetch a higher price because it owns its franchises outright.

Telewest recently indicated it intended to take a leading role m developing the cable television market in the UK, following its agreement to support the rest of the industry in rejecting the controversial rate card offered by BSkyB for the supply of pay-television programming.

Telewest is believed to be leading preparations for the launch of pay-per-view movies on cable, in direct competition with BSkyB, which has well-developed plans for its own PPV

 The German economics ministry said it expected third-quarter GDP to have grown around a real 2 per cent fram a year earlier. In its November monthly report, the ministry said GDP should also have risen "noticeably" from the second quarter in seasonally and calendar-adjusted terms. But it also said quarter-on-quarter growth would be lower than in the second quarter because of a normalisation of economic activity after the cold winter boosted GDP in the April to June period. Second-quarter GDP was 1.5 per cent higher than in the previous quarter and up 1.2 per cent year-on-year.

 Higher oil prices took prices at the factory gate in the US up by 0.4 per cent last month. But core prices, excluding food and energy, fell unexpectedly by 0.3 per cent. The news, which came as the Federal Reserve's Open Markets Committee was meeting to discuss interest rates, confirmed financial markets in the view that there would be no change in rates this month.

 France sold a 9.1 per cent stake in oil company Elf Aquitaine raising about Fr10hn (£1.19bn) to help loss-making state-owned companies. The Finance Ministry said it sold 4.6 per cent of Elf. or 12.58 million shares, to institutional investors via Banque Paribas and SBC Warburg. It also sold 4.5 per cent, or 12.32 million shares. nf France's largest oil company to Fingestval, a unit of Eif. The proceeds of the sale would go to a fund used to inject cash into ailing state-owned companies, the ministry said.

 Westinghouse Electric would spin off its industrial businesses as a publicly traded company next year to create a stand-alone company for its growing broadcasting operations, the company said. Westinghouse will take a \$125m fourth-quarter charge to cut 1,100 jobs in the industrial businesses prior to the spin-off. The company will also sell its Texas-based security systems husiness and offer the public up to a 20 per cent stake in Minneapolisbased Thermo King, its profitable transport-refrigeration unit.

 Chartered accountants could find themselves out of work or earning substantially less in 10 years' time because of an oversupply, according to a report published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants yesterday. The consultation document, called 'Added-Value Professionals, Chartered Accountants in 2005", says that competition from inside and outside the accountancy profession will become much more intense, with chartered accounants over 45 particularly vulnerable to losing their jobs.

 Just under half of Britain's finance directors believe the publie would be better served by setting up an outside regulatory body instead of continuing with the self-regulatory approach recently backed by the leading accountancy bodies, according to a survey by Reed Accountancy Personnel for Accountancy Age magazine, which was published today.

MPETITION

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A MIRCURY

Group is set to take over the tential. running of one of Britain's train company.

A formal announcement link. that Virgin has officially won the franchise is expected to be

A spokesman for Virgin, Will Whitehorn, said: "We are

Richard Branson's Virgio tional network with huge po-Virgin is a partner in London

most extensive rail routes, it & Continental Railways, which was revealed yesterday. has laken over the running or The Rail Franchising Office the high-speed Channel tunnel has laken over the running of said Virgin was the preferred Eurostar train service and bidder for the CrossCountry which will huild the £3bu Channel tunnel high-speed rail

The success with Cross-Country is some consolation for Mr Branson, who had hitherto failed in bids to run privatised lines. In particular, he had high hopes of running the covering 470 miles. "We think this is a major na- Gatwick Express route, only to

lose out to bus company National Express. From its headquarters in

Birmingham, CrossCountry operates services as far north. as Aberdeen, as far south-west as Penzance in Cornwall and as

far south as Brighton. Some of the service involves InterCity trains, while other services are of a long-distance nature, including a Penzance-Dandee service covering more than 700 miles and a Bournemouth-Glasgow service

gow and Paddington in London. The company's passenger revenue in 1994-95 was £102m

Liverpool, Manchester. Glas-

fered for sale. The Government is hopeful of completing the entire privatisation of passenger services hefore the General Big city stations served by

Virgin to run CrossCountry trains CrossCountry include Cardiff.

> cent in early trading on Nasdaq yesterday, in part on the comand it employs about 840 staff. Thirteen of the 25 train companies have now passed into private hands and all the remaining ones have been of-

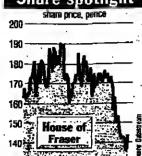
> > smaller company.

Data Bank

FTSE 100 3926.9 - 7.4 **FTSE 250** 4410.2 + 5.4FTSE 350

1961.2 - 2.3 SEAQ VOLUME 852.8m shares, 34,624 bargains Gilts Index

93.68 - 0.16 Share spotlight



House of Fraser takeover talk stirs lethargic punters A quiet, uneventful sessioo space Fraser's 50 stores could usually spawns a few takeover look attractive.

bid stories as traders struggle to generate investment interest. With the stock market deep in pre-Budget lethargy retailers found themselves the centre of attention and House of Fraser, the struggling department store chain captured much of the speculation.

The shares climbed Sp to 144_5p as stories cootinued to circulate that Burton, down 1.5p to 143p, was preparing an

Burton is trading well and last week demonstrated its success with a 54 per cent profits jump to £151.6m. Joho Hoerner, called in as chief executive four years ago to turn round the theo ailing group, declared: "This is not the beginning of the end; it is the end

of the beginning". With Debenhams, the group's department store chain

So a bid from Burtoo at least has the merit of logicality. And Fraser looks vulnerable. Its shares have failed to perform. Floated at 180p 30 mooths ago they have been as low as 135.5p. Last month it disclosed half-

year losses of £13.6m and said it intended to close some of its stores. New management has been drafted in, led by John Coleman, a Texas Homecare

veteran. Sears, another retailer certainty, which has lost its way, added With the debacle over the which has lost its way, added 2p to 89p in busy trading with Fraser said to be a possible tar-

get. But Sears is also seen as vulnerable to a hreak up-strike. Next and Body Shop also

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

£36m before exceptional charges take their toll. The market failed to hold early gains and spent the rest trades appeared on market of the session drifting aimlessly. Fears of higher interest rates

system cootributing to the air of indifference Footsie slipped 7.4 points to 3,926.9.

As the market closed there Storehouse found the going difficult, falling 5.5p to 274p. a year's low. Interim profits are due next week. They are likely with Hanson (71.62 million).

Cooksoo (22.11 million) and BT (21.79 million) dominating the action as a series of delayed screens.

Fears of higher interest rates and a little selling in New York added to the Budget uncertainty.

With the debacle over the Crest computerised settlement system cootributing to the air the activity.

the activity.

British Gas flared 6p to 1985p on UBS support, hopes of a North Sea settlement and lingering bid speculation. BT edged forward 1.5p to 360.5p, largely on Nat West Securities

positive, moving its stance from hold to add.

East Midlands Electricity, as the Dominion Resources bid duly arrived, rose 11.5p to 622.5p. Northern Ireland Electricity, not regarded as a prime

takeover candidate, fell 9p to 357.5p as SBC Warburg said take profits. Lasmo rose 8.5p to 210p. At a New York investment presentation chief executive Joe

Darby said the group expected to produce 200,000 barrels of oil equivalent a day next year. a 12 per cent iocrease. The higher level should be maintained for five years. Allied Domeco dipped a fur-ther 7p to 447p and Guinness strengthened 8p to 453.5p on

continuing speculation about LVMH's 21 per ceot stake.

Vendome, the luxury goods group, fell 16p to 544.5p as ABN Amro Hoare Govett trimmed its forecasts by £10m issue at 190p.

lieves the shares are a buy up

out at £450.9m. of an institutional presentation chief acquired 25 per cent

Ladbroke, ahead of a trading update, cantered 25p high 29.9 per cent. A link with er to 198p; Mercury Asset
Management, the fund manager, gained 35p to a 1,163.5p
peak on talk of corporate activity.

Boardroom changes at lux
Boardroom c

Insurance group Wellington returned at 142p, against Jacobs eased to 71p and

Taking Stock

Granada gained 6.5p to Alpha Airports, the in-884.5p. Lehman Brothers be-flight caterer and airport s flight caterer and airport services group, rose 8.5p to 113p to 950p. It expects year's results, due next week, to come speculation Mohamed Al Fayed had increased his Smiths Industries, ahead stake. Last week the Harruds hosted by Henderson Crosthwaite, improved 7.5p to 797p and Chbham, meeting Henderson today, held at 584.5p.

I adhyrda ahgad of a todal.

ury goods group Ronson left the shares down 3p at 21.5p and Maid, the on-line infortalks are taking place. Scrutmation group, fell 7p to 175.5p group, could be pulled into on talk of a one-for-eight rights any deal with Ropner owning 29 per cent of its capital. Ropner gained 6p to 187p:

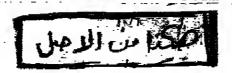
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120

A:Telstra	130 D J FM AM J J A S O N	group's department store chair	due next week. They are likely to emerge 8 per ceot higher a	with Hanson (71.62 million). The investment British Gas (64.69 million). for the first time for:	house is, trimmed its forecasts by £10m 30 months, to £280m and £305m.	ton returned at 142p, against Jacob a 121p suspension. Scrut	os eased to 71p and stons held at 290p.
Cistra Cistra A: Telstra A: Telstra Osoo 856 0856 Osoo	Aicoholic Beverages 568 49 Alexhorm 1 7 88 10 565 573 68 Bam Short 1 61 62 731 587 574 68 Bam Short 1 61 62 731 587 575 68 Alexhorm 1 60 62 731 587 576 68 Alexhorm 1 60 62 731 587 577 68 Bam Short 1 60 62 731 587 578 68 Alexhorm 1 60 62 731 587 579 68 Alexhorm 1 60 62 731 587 579 68 Alexhorm 1 60 62 731 587 579 68 Alexhorm 1 60 62 73 16 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73	134 125 Eurole Becton 125 12 20 244 135 75 Europe Becton 125 125 20 135 75 Europe Becton 125 125 20 135 75 Europe Becton 125 125 20 135 25 Europe Becton 20 12 20 135 20 Europe Becton 20 20 20 20 Europe Becton 20 20 20 20 20 20 Europe Becton 20 20 20 20 20 20 Europe Becton 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 Europe Becton 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 2	201 1	### Seconds	2	Prices are in stering except where stated. The yeld it is a percentage of the share price. The price divided by shart year's earnings per share, exclusion of the details: r Ex rights x Ex-dividend 8 Ex el u Unit pp Partly Paud pm NF Peid Shares ‡ AM Stock The Independent Index The index ellowe you so access real-time share price one in 123 335, followed by the -digit code printed realization of the index ellowe you so access real-time share price one in 123 335, followed by the -digit code printed realization of the index ellowe you so access real-time share price one in 123 335, followed by one of the index ellowe you so access real-time share price one in 123 335, followed by one of the index ellowe you so access real-time share price one in 123 335, followed by one of the index ellowers of the index ellowers one of the index ellowers ellowers ellowers ellowers one of the index ellowers ell	sterd Securities Market a Suspended Source: FT Information set by phone from Seag. Simply dial at to each share. To access the latest he rero-dig cottes below. 04 Privatestion tasses 36 95 Meter Shares 39 20 Secriticity Shares 40 21 High Street Banks 41 06. For a detailed description of The facility, phone 0891 123 333. and 530pm). of all other times. Call charges include Volt000 Stock Ver000. Roseco 80000 Ubyds 738 5000 F s 50000 Aled Danseq 45000. 50000 GRE 45000. 14,00 39312 down 31 13,00 3925 down 88 13,00 3925 down 88 14,00 39312 down 88 15,00 3925 down 74 14,00 Smith for City Meter 15 12 Close 99269 down 74 15 Same like 6 +3 38 50 487 15 Same Stock 71 4 403 10 Same like 6 +3 38 50 487 10 Same like 6 +3 48 50 487 10 Same like 6 +3 4
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Land Securities offers little to excite

Land Securities' figures yesterday un-derscored how eccentric stock markets can be. Shares in Britain's biggest landlord raced ahead on the publication of interim figures pretty much in line with analysts' expectations, leaving those very same analysts wondering what all the excitement was about.

They were quick to point out that the outlook for Land Securities has not improved, making it hard to see why the shares were building on the 10 per cent outperformance against the rest of the market seen so far this year. Stripping out the results of selling investment properties, pre-tax profits fell to £115.5m from £118.2m. Proceeds of £161m were received on the sale of properties, resulting in a profit of £13.4m over financial year-end valuations. The most significant deal in-volved the sale in August of Land Securities' flagship London building at 33 Grosvenor Place for £130m to a German investment fuod.

Land Securities explained the pretax shortfall on the effects of financing the development programme interest incurred as part of the cost of carrying out the development programme is not capitalised.

Expenditure on properties, expected to peak in the second half, reached £108m during the period, of which almost £80m related to developments and refurbishments.

Work has been completed at 25 Victoria Street in central London, on shopping centres in Livingston and Walisend and on several retail developments. Large shopping schemes are also planned in Canterbury. York

Of more concern is the pedestrian growth in rental income. the lifeblood of any property company. In Land Sccurities case, this rose by a sub-infla-tionary 1.5 per cent to £214.3m. With the shares, up 7.5p to 726p,

trading well above the last published net asset value figure, investors are anticipating robust growth in rental in-come, of which there is precious little

Although occupational and investment demand in the property market have improved as confidence increases, Sir Peter Hunt, the chairman. describes rental growth as "patchy".

Like other property companies. Land Securities is seeing some rental growth in certain parts of the market such as retail warehouses, out-of-lown shopping centres and regional shopping malls. But Sir Peter warns that rental income growth is slow and will be nothing like what was experienced in the 1980s. For good measure, Sir Peter's cautious tone is backed up by a paltry 3.5 per cent increase in the dividend

Land Securities : at a glance

to 7.35p. UBS has tweaked its 1997 pre-tax forecast £1m higher to £230m, but has cut its estimates by £5m for each of the following years to £240m and £250m, respectively. High enough,

Hambros faces uphill struggle

A year of restructuring and the arrival on the share register of Regent Pacific, an upstart Hong Kong vulture fund de-manding a hreak-up, have done nothing for Hambros' reputation in the City. The merchant bank's "beautifully decorated" board vesterday reported a re-turn to the black for the half-year to September and was rewarded with a

5p fall in the share price to 245p.
It is not difficult to see why Hambros irritates analysts. Most of the swing in the interim results from losses of £7.7m to profits of £35m came not from trading but from arguably one-off items. The group reorganisation threw up exceptional costs of £2.9m, down from £8.8m before, while had dehts in the bank fell from £23.5m to £5.9m.

Trading record

Pre-tax profits (£m)

Gross property Income (£m)

Earnings per share (pence)

Dividends per share (pence)

Net asset value

Much of the rest of the increase came from areas nominally not under the group's control. Both the quoted subsidiarics saw sharp upturns in prof-itability, with Hambro Insurance Services rising 50 per cent to £4.5m and Hambro Countrywide, the estate agency, back in the black for only the second time since 1988, with profits of £10.5m replacing losses of £5.8m.

Even in the parts of Hambros where management is supposed to deploy its expertise, the half-year figures present a mixed picture. The group's investment portfolio threw up a profit of £20.4m, against £13.2m last time, mostly from disposals. But these profits are volatile and Hambros was warning yesterday not to expect a repeat of that performance in the second half.

Which leaves the bank itself. Much of the reorganisation has been concentrated here as part of a new strategy of reducing risky and low-margin lending and replacing it with higher "added value" services. But this is go-ing to be a long haul and analysts were pointing disparagingly at the 7 per cent return on net assets of £298m.

Hambros faces an uphill struggle to convince the City that Regent's criticisms

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

CEDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

of the management are misguided. It will not be helped by news that current chief executive Sir "Chips" Keswick is to take on the chairman's role next year. Profits of, say, £70m this year would put the of, say, £70m this year would put the shares on a forward multiple of 17. Hold to see what Regent can do, but investors should not hold their breath.

The pub chain with no theme

Puh chains have heen one of the easiest ways to make money so far in the 1990s, both for those lucky or astute enough to set them up and flog them on to the majors and for other shareholders who have ridden the wave. Discovery lines, yet another product of the 1989 beer orders, is the latest to jump on the bandwagon - after pricing in early December, the shares should be trading by Christmas.

Discovery is slightly difficult to cat-egorise, positioned halfway between the managed themed chains such as Wetherspoon and Tom Cohleigh and the groups of tenanted pubs run by the likes of Enterprise and Century. With 45 managed pubs—all maintaining their own character, not a centrally deter-mined theme - and 234 tenanted outlets, Discovery is a hit of both and will

presumably he priced as such.
Set up in 1992 as a vehicle to acquire 223 pubs from Whitbread in England and South Wales, the chain has been added to subsequently with purchases from Marstons and Allied Domecq. The focus is now expected to be on expanding the relatively small managed portfolio, but the cash-generative tenanted pubs will remain as a 200-strong core to help fund expansion of the other leg.

After the proposed exit of the orig-

inal venture capital backers, led by Kleinwort Benson, Discovery is pitching itself to investors (who are frankly beginning to have had their fill of puh chains) as a non-fashion led, traditional chain of pubs, designed not to need regular refurbs and so generate a decent return on capital. It is a commendable resistance to the relentless trivialising of the country's pubs and for that, if nothing else, deserves support.
For less sentimental teasons,
Discovery looks likely to be a reason-

able bet. Operating profits have grown smartly from 1994's £2.35m to the £5.11m achieved in the year to September and the board has a wealth of experience gleaned from years at Devenish and Courage. All will depend on how amhitious the pricing is next

British Steel shifts computer jobs to IBM

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

British Steel is to move its computing workforce of 600 staff to news jobs with IBM in a 10-year deal worth £350m, believed to the biggest computer outsourcing agreement so far in the UK. It is also the largest ever in Britain by the US computer giant.

From next February the British Steel employees will transfer to contracts with IBM, which has already signed recent outsourcing deals with several big British companies, including Thorn, Legal & General and a £65m contract with Sun Alliance

signed at the end of last year.

The changes will affect workers in British Steel's comouter departments across the UK and will include all administrative, payroll and personnel functions and supply and purchasing information with the group's customers. They cover a variety of job grades and salaries.

Some 120 staff are affected in Port Taibot and 150 on Teeside, with others in data centres at Wedneshury in the West Midlands, Blackburn and Scun-thorpe. Computer staff involved in manufacturing software roles will stay v ith British Steel.

in such outsourcing arrangements the workers involved will stay in the same posts in the same offices but work for the computer company. British Steel, headed by Sir Brian Moffat, declined to reveal how much money it would save as a result of the deal, or whether any of the 600 workers involved would lose their jobs, They will be covered by employment law, which means IBM must continue with previous wage and pension agreements.

A spokesman for British Steel also declined to reveal how much money the company would save as a result of its linkup with IBM. The workers affected currently use 7,000 desk-top terminals and net-



Sir Brian Moffat: The British Steel chief has done a deal with IBM worth £350m and involving 600 staff

worked systems, some of which will be updated as a result. Earlier this year British Steel outsourced 300 staff, mostly

hased in Rotherham, involved in its central management services division responsible for other administrative work. The deal, worth an estimated £100m, was with the computer group Cap Gemini, formethy called Hoskyns.

The new agreement with IBM is a clear success for the computer group, which had heen criticised for failing to ex-

ploit outsourcing opportuni-ties with British firms, It is thought that the US group beat off competition from Cap Gemini and EDS.

IBM has so far taken on

10,000 staff worldwide in outsourcing arrangements, including an estimated 1,000 in the UK. The deal with British Steel does not involve IBM hat dware such as personal computers. The British firm currently uses systems made by several different contractors, including

Rates on the way up, says CU

Magnus Grimond

formmercial Union yesterday idded its vuice to those sug-jesting UK insurance rates rere set to turn up. Peter Foser, finance director, said they had yet to push through any rating increases, but had not reduced rates by as much as other life and general insurer aninsurers when prices were falling. The next move from CU on rates would prohably be upward, he forecast.

The group is also sanguine about the effects of the announcement on Tuesday that AXA and UAP of France are to merge to create the world's the life insurance business. second-biggest insurance group.

We see [the union] in a fairly positive light." AXA would help make the market mure focused on shareholder teturn, which would benefit Commetcial Union, he said.

The comments came as the nounced that operating profits had slid from £384m to £348m in the nine months to September. The figures continued to be dragged lower by weather-related claims from the first half, which rose by £62m and more than offset stronger results from

Tony Wyand, director in charge of European operations, said: £244m to £161m in the period. First-quarter winter storms and claims from terrorist bombings compounded domestic problems caused by competition. CU had to fork out £17m in weathet claims, £7m following the IRA bombing in Manchester's

bomh in London's Docklands. General insurance premium income fell 2 per cent, hut there are now glimmers of hope in the UK. CU said: "The rating environment remains comsigns of competition reducing in the motor classes." UK profits slumped from £178m, boosted by CU's French

and Italy posting a 37.5 per cent increase. Insurance premiums from the life business now provide 43 per cent of the group total premium income.

analyst at Salomon Brothers. In the UK, the ptemium indeliberately losing exposure ie motor classes."

and becoming an increasingly
smaller operation."

operations and a reorganised Dutch husiness. Life premi-ums climbed 6.4 per cent to £2.8bn, with Poland more than doubling its premium income

The results show the virtue of having a good spread of businesses," said Trevor May, an petitive, although there are come line is still weak. They're

The shares rose op to 645p.

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£8m shake-up at Willis to improve profits

Magnus Grimond

Willis Corroon, the insurance hroking group, yesterday took a further step in the reorganisation of its business with the announcement of an £8.2m charge to cover profit improvement

Unveiling a 17 per cent rise in nine-months profits, the chairman. John Reeve, said: "The action the group has been taking to re-focus on its core businesses has achieved the objectives of improving prof-itability and strengthening the balance sheet, essential precursors to the next phase of the group's strategic development. The programme of change at

the group would include several immediate profit improvement measures, he said. The cost of will be taken in the full-year figures and is likely to be around the same level as the £8.2m profit commission teceived from the group's Lloyd's members' agency so far this year.

The group said it would connities, but teiterated its view that it saw no need to join with another group to combat competitive insurance markets.

Max Taylor, chief uperating officer, said they did not feel under any greater pressure to merge with another large player following the acquisition by Aon Corporation of Inchcape's Bain Hugg broking operation. Willis was focused on organic

best people, he said. Were it to make an acquisition it would be a "very specific targeted acqui-sition" in the US retail market.

However, the group also intends to grow its existing offices in continental Europe and is looking to add to its Latin American network of offices, which includes Mexico. Venezuela and Peru. The nine-months figures

showed the group shrugging off continuing difficult markets to report profits 17 per cent higher at £88.2m. Stripping out the £8.2m from the Lloyd's members' agency and disposal gains. the underlying businesses recorded a 14 pet cent increase to £75.5m. The figures included a 57 per cent leap in underlying profits to £8.3m for the third quarter.

Mr Reeve said brokerage and fees had risen 2 per cent in the year to date, at constant exchange rates, reflecting higher business volumes, particularly in the UK and North American retinue to seek growth opportu- tail and global reinsurance op-

eratiums. Tight control of costs led to increased margins. Nearly a third of its expected dollar earnings for next year are hedged at \$1.50 to the pound. the group said, which will go

shares managed a rise of just 0.5p to 129.5p yesterday.

IN BRIEF

• Fenner, the engineering group, recorded lower pre-tax profits of £12.4m in the year to August due to restructuring charges and a loss on disposals of £7m. The company said the disposal of non-core activities was now complete and had generated proceeds of £2.4m. The move to consolidate the polymer moulding business in Wales is continuing, though the benefits will not be felt until 1998.

 Borthwicks, the natural flavours company, saw pre-tax profits halve to £652,000 in the six months to September due to destocking in the beverage and ice-cream sectors and lower sales of beef flavours due to BSE concerns. Sales in Borthwicks' American flavours business were down 15 per cent due to the loss of two accounts. Group sales were 6 per cent lower at £17.3m.

 Morgan Crucible is paying \$26.8m for EM Corporation, a sub-sidiary of Great Lakes Chemical Corporation. EM manufactures and supplies a range of dry film lubricants, principally for the aero-

• BTR is to establish a joint venture in India 10 manufacture electric motors and compact geared motors for the Indian and South-east Asian markets. The partnership has been formed with Indian company Crompton Greaves. With an initial investment of £10m, the company will huild a factory in India which will start manufacturing by mid-1997. By the end of the decade, the plant is forecast to produce more than 200,000 motors a year.

 Volex, the cable assemblies company, increased profits by 23 per cent to £6.5m in the six months to September. Volex is building a manufacturing site in San Diego, California, which will create 100 jobs. Group sales were 4 per cent higher at £85.5m.

	Compai	ıy Resu	lts	
	Ternover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
ABI Laisere (F)	92 4m (85.3m)	5.03m (4.21m)	10 2p (9.7p)	3.47p (-)
Scrittwicks (I)	16 3m (17.3m)	0 65m (1 26m)	0.78p (1.75p)	0.5p (0.5p)
Commercial Union (N)	- (-)	457m (441m)	33.7p (40.7p)	(NJ)
James Dickie (F)	34 4m (30.6m)	1,49m (2.03m)	15p (20.0p)	3.85p -j
Fecner (F)	259m (225m)	12 47m 13 1m1	5 59p (10.21p)	3.30p (3.0p)
Kendens (1)	- (-)	35m (-T.7m)	7.2p (-16.9p)	2 Sp (2.5p)
Land Socurties (I)	- [-]	128.9m (118.1m	16.44p (16.49p)	7.35p (T.Jp)
Mershalts (I)	135 3m 135.6m)	13.fm (16.4m)	6.37p (7.73p)	1.5p (1.5p)
M&S Responses (I)	2.81m (16.41m)	-9.38m (0.17m)	-4.8p -0 1p)	nii (nii)
Sadgorick (10)	- 14	80.4m (76.5m)	53.6p (55.9p)	m² (m²)
Sians Food (1)	75.6m (126.3m)	() 71m (Q.15m)	1.7p (mil)	(Tar) In
Volex (I)	85 5m (82.3m)	6 3m (5.2m)	15.20 (12.40)	7.35p (7 Op)
Willia Circum (K)	- (-)	88 2m (F\$ 3m)	13.2p (11.2p)	1 65p (-)
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business

Will Asia's hunger for growth leave the world starving?

tional grain prices and a drop in world grain stocks to oear-record low levels. Together with projections of massive grain imports by China in the 21st century, by Lester this has raised concerns about the world food situation. These thoughts are in the minds of the heads of state and agricultural ministers meeting now in Rome for the first world food summit since the mid-1970s.

Will the rapid industrialisatioo of densely populated East Asia make people in poorer countries more hungry? China alone, with 22 per cent of the world's population hut only 7 per cent of its land area, is expected to need to import half its grain needs by 2030. That would represent a doubling in current world grain trade. What if India's economic reforms were to have similar consequences?

These questions are like those that concerned Thomas Malthus in the mid-19th century and writers in the early 1970s such as the Cluh of Rome (in Limits to Growth) and Paul Erlich (in The Population Bomb). Malthusians make good headlines, but they have so far been proved spectacularly wrong in their pre-dictions. The clearest indicators of that are food availability and the relative price of food io international markets. Today's 5.7 billion people have 18 per cent more food per person than the world's 3 hillion people three decades ago. And if the world's demand for food were growing faster than its supply, real food prices would have been rising over time. But in fact they have

been falling slightly. According to the World Bank data in the graph, the trend decline io the price of food relative to industrial products has averaged about 0.5 per

the past year has seen a more of the same in the foredramatic rise in interna- seeable future, as food supply growth outstrips the growth in

emand. Of course, such projections incorporate many assumptions about future developments in the world ecocomy. So what Brown's Worldwatch Institute, happens to food price projections when plausible alternative the long-term prospects for scenarios replace some of those assumptions?

New research* addressing this question first projects the world economy forward a decade, assuming that no commitments on food trade are included in the recently completed Uruguay Round of trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt). That base case predicts a continuation of the slight decline in interna-

tional food prices.

The study's first alternative scenario is one in which the Uruguay Round is fully implemented by 2005 as scheduled. Alternative assumptions are then added to see how much difference they can make

to the projected prices.

Contrary to some earlier studies and the fears of many food-importing developing countries, the results suggest implementing the Uruguay Round in itself will have almost no impact on real international food prices. They are projected to be only 2 to 4 per cent higher than they otherwise would be in a decade's time.

There are two main reasons why the effect is so small. One is that, on close inspection, the agricultural commitments under the Round by the most farm protectionist countries are modest.

The other reason

is that many markets for non-farm products also are to be liberalised under the Uruguay Round. As a result their prices will rise in international markets



Anderson

China alone, with 22 per cent of the world's population but only 7 per cent of its land area, is expected to import half its

as well. This moderates the increase in farm relative to nonfarm prices - and it is these relative prices that influence the decisions of producers and consumers.

grain needs by

2030

The next step was to see what difference it would make if China and Taiwan join the

International food prices

Interest Rates

Bond Yields

87% 8251% 57%

735

487

twice as large with China par-ticipating, and livestock prod-uct prices would be 40 per cent higher. China would import 4 per ceot instead of just 1 per cent of its grain needs by 2005. Total world trade would be 13 per cent instead of just 10 per cent greater. Kym

Furthermore, these results are at the bottom of the likely range, because they ignore the inducements to domestic and foreign investment that would accompany trade liberalisation. Should those investments boost China's industrial productivity to the extent of causing its economy to grow 25 per ceot faster, for example, the gains from its accession to the WTO would be as much as four times greater. And China's dependence on grain imports would increase by about twice

amount. Increases in interna-

There is, however, a risk that advanced industrial countries will not deliver all their promised reform to textile and clothing markets. Should there be such backsliding on reform, a great deal of the projected gains from the Uruguay Round and China's WTO accession would evaporate, industrialisation in Asia's dynamic economies would slow, and the growth in their demand for food imports (and hence the rise in world food prices) would

While net food exporters WTO. Poteotially, a huge such as North America and Australasia would be harmed by such a slowdown in Asia's food import demand. might that oot be welcome news for poorer food-importing coun-tries in Africa and elsewhere? The aoswer is no, not least because that dampening of international food prices would be a symptom of a slow-

300%

100%

10yr yield % 81% 5.77

601 726 8.28

976

7% 8% 7%

479

473 839 511

S MEN BOU

Spein 10-Day Repo 675%

Notherlands 87/% Spein 1030% haly 91/%

5% 13%

757 6.20 2.58

depress development prospects

tional grain prices would be everywhere. Contrast this with the key reason for the slight downward trend in world food prices of past decades, which is the very rapid growth in farm produc-tivity. That productivity growth has been due in large part to well-targeted investments by aid agencies in international agricultural research, the economic returns from which have been - and continue to be-ex-

tremely high. The very success of those research investments, however, has bred complacency. One consequence is that the emphasis on agriculture by aid agencies has waned considerably in the past decade. Should that cause global grain pro-ductivity growth to slow by, say, one-fifth during the next decade, our results suggest this would have dramatic effects: international grain prices by 2005 would be more than 5 per cent higher than otherwise, and global economic welfare would be \$28bn (£17bn) less

per year. These results suggest leaders at the FAO's World Food Summit in Rome ought not to worry about the effects on food markets of Asia's rapid industrialisation, but rather focus on the need for revitalising investments in agricultural research in developing countries. That may he the single best way of simultaneously reducing poverty and malnutritioo and providing new technologies for sustainable development.

Kym Anderson is professor of economics at the University of Adelaide in Australia and a research fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy Research.

*Discussion Paper No. 1474, "Asia-Pacific Food Markets and Trade in 2005" by K Anderson, B Dimaranan, T Hertel and W Martin, is available from er-growing world CEPR (economy which would price £4. CEPR (Tel: 0171 878 2900),

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Saracens show their new colours for BZW

BZW has plunged into the muddy world of professional rugby by sponsoring Saracens this Sunday against the touring Queensland State of

Australia. The north Londoo team will not be called Saracens, but Michael Lynagh's XV, as the former Australian captain leads his Sarries teammates. meluding Kyran Bracken and Phillipe Sella, in a unique game. For the first time in the club's 100-year history, the players will not appear in their own strip, but in BZW blue and white colours

designed for the occasion. The BZW logo will appear on the front and sides of the shirts, as well as the shorts, in any case anyone didn't get the

The sponsorship is the brain child of Nick Brigstock. chairman of BZW corporate hanking, who is an old friend of Nigel Wray, chairman of the Burford property group and now owner of Saracens. Mr Brigstock says: "I've known Nige! Wray for 15 years. He wanted sponsorship for the game, and since we're brokers and advisers to Burford, we were very happy

to support him." Mr Brigstock said the match at Enfield was a oneoff. "BZW are not normally sponsors of events."

The former Labour Chancellor and co-founder of the Social Democrats, Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, was in expansive form yesterday at a pre-Budget speech at Mansion House in London.

Lord Jenkins praised the current inmate at Number 11 as a rather good Chancellor. Clarke has more spunk and willingness to stand up for his beliefs than all the other

ministers put together. recalled his own experience of pre-budget "purdah": Secrecy was more an asset to the Chancellor than to the nation. It enabled him not to tell his Cahinet colleagues what he was doing until it was too late for them to object."

3950 8/29 58/66 61/83 108/102

23.75 23.65 23.50 22.95

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PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Michael Lynagh: Leading the Saracens into battle

Lord Jenkins's advice for Mr Clarke is "no giveaways, hut a touch on the brakes, both fiscal and monetary".

Lord Jenkins is now Chancellor of a different sort, that of Oxford University. As such, he has been closely involved with the project to build a new Oxford business school with a £20m donation from Wafic Said. The donation was rejected by a meeting of dons but may be rescued by a postal vote.

All of which has come too late for Oxford Today, the university's magazine. Its Michaelmas issue, which has just arrived, devotes a page to the project: "Major benefactions boost Management Studies". It states that the proposed site is on some playing fields. which are primarily used by university staff who will be provided with alternative

facilities".

An illustration of the proposed building is captioned: There are likely to be significant changes in the finished plans". If the postal vote is thumbs down, here won't be any plans at all.

Christopher King CBE, chairman-elect of Avoo Rubber, is joining BOC's board as a non-executive director. Mr King. 60, spent

Industrial Metals ... 1211/08

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35 years with BP and retired as chairman of BP Europe two years ago. He retains a directorships with BP, and he is a board member of Insead. the leading French business school in Fountainebleu.

Today around 150 City types will witness a grisly murder. Charismatic tycoon Dr Raymond Black, chief executive of Black Pharmaccuticals, has called an EGM io London to persuade brokers, bankers, analysis and the media to help rescue his

crumbling empire. But the City slickers will watch horrified as Dr Black gets shot, stabhed, strangled and clubbed to death before falling down the biggest

staircase in Europe. Also attending will be co-founder of Black Pharmacenticals, Professor Peter Plum, who helped diversify the group into Scarlett's Lingerie, Mustard Export, White Hotels and Peacock Interior Design.

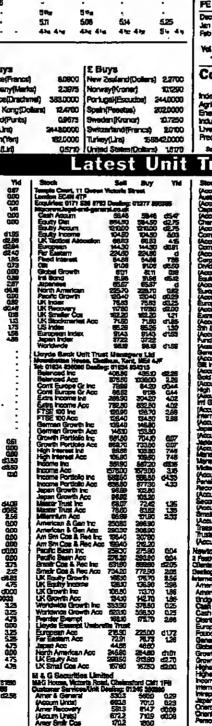
It is, of course, a scaled-up game of Cluedo, being held in aid of the charity Children with Leukemia, KPMG Forensic Accounting will be oo hand to lend autheoticity to the skulduggery. I'll be the one with the lead pipe.

John Willcock

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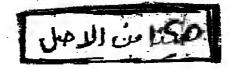
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of 'emptiness'

Frankie Dettori yesterday admitted to a feeling of "emption" it is missing in my record and it is probably the race I would ness" after achieving his ambition of riding all seven winners on the first day's card at Ascot's Festival of Racing on 28 September,

The jockey told of a magazine feature which had been compiled about him in which he was asked what would he your ideal day?"

"I said going through the card and it was funny because a couple of weeks laier I actually went through the card." Dettori said in an interview on Radio 5 Live.

"And I had this kind of feel-ing of emptiness when I went home that day because, usually, when I come home from a race meeting, there are always one or two races where you think well if I did this or that. perhaps I could have changed things a little hit

"But it was the only day in my career when I did everything perfect, so I felt, really, kind of empty, I didn't know what to

Dettori's new ambition is to win the Derby, 7At the end of the day, if I don't win the Derby in my career. I'm not going to kill myself but it's the race

RACING

WORCESTER

1.00: 1. MIGHTY MOSS (AFF Plays): 13-8 lat; 2. Denham Hall 50: 1.2 Hydemilla 50: 1. 14 rm. 11. 30, 10 Webston, Temple Guarry, Total E. 7.00: 11. 50, 73 10, 27 90. Dual Forecast: 160: 90. Computer Structus Forecast: 160: 10. Improve a con 1. 20: 1. CHERRYNUT: 4.P. Model, 3-1, 2. Billygout Graff 8-11 lat; 3. King Lucifor 3-1, 3 rm. 2. 4. Playson, 5-1, 20: 5-1, 20: 5-20: 5

Ser. Tokes (23.20 Data Forecast, £1.90, £5.2).

15.2).

Mouse Bird 5-2 box 3. Checodon (5-2, 8 cm.)

3. 1. (Capet Foreter, Extantion Tokes (5, 3);

£1.50, £1.00, £1.30, Dout Forecast, £6.30,

GSF, £1.2 box, Incaret £3.4 = 2.30; L. PLEASURE SHARRED (C. Mauch)

9-2. 2. Around The Gale £1.4 box 3. Moory
5-8 kg 16-1, £0 ran, £6, £7.4 hoozs, Minehead, 7 dos; £5.50 £1.00, £1.4, £2.46

Dual Forecast, £6.40, Composer Sira (ht fortable £1.50 ct. Thos: £32.60, Rom Purment

Bankesse.

3.00; L. INDRRAPURA, AP McCoy, 9-4 box

2. Lots Be Frank £1.2:3, Time Leader 25-

2. Lots Be Frank 11-2; 3, Time Leader 25-1, 11 ran, 11-8, 31, Pire, Vielington, Toto; £3-20; £1-50, £1-50, £5-30, Dual Fereçast £6-90, CSF £1-4-22, Incast £212,97, Time

16.90, CSF £14.22, Inc. at £212.97, Inc. 113.8 (1).

2.30: 1. PORPHYRIOS (C DANGEN) & E. Reeshloch 9-1; 3. Thats The Life £5-1, 12 ran, 11-2 calls who 4x f (6th. 1 -, 10 lb. Bailet, timer Lambourni Tote; £5, 30 CSF £11, 21.0, 23.90, 25.50 Das Forecast; £23.00, CSF £11.71 lb. Last £1.7, 75. Inc. £217.00; and usin:

4.00: 1. BOOTS MADDEN (P Annison 7-12). 2. Repther Cheful £1.1, 2 Rechell

2 far, 2, Another Cockpit 12-1, 3, Rachel Lauke 12-1, 21 fan, 1 , 3, Illins Veneta Millarn, Herelons, 70th: 13-67; £170, 57-10, £2,90 Dual Foncost: £41,20, CSf: £55.68, Too: £183,30 ipart cont, Non Rurrer Gover-Slave

Jackpott £13,240,70, Quadpott £36,40, Placepott £352,80, Place 6: £265 78, Place 5: £115,66

1,10: 1. MONYMAN (R Garmy, 13-8 tm., 2. Banyano 15-5, 3, to Denstan 7-2, 7 ran, 1-1, 2-1, (M. Hammond, Toto: £2,50, £1,30, £1,30, Dual Forecast, £2,60 CSF, £4,77.

E4-17: 1. DEL PIERO (P. Gardin 6-1; 2. Kildemartyra Get 7-1; 3. Midwale 7-1; 67: 10 ran, Nr. G. 5/1 Hammor-5. Tatte: £7,80: £1,90; £2,41; £1,50; DF £17; £0; CSF: £45,24 Thot £19 ft.

2-30.4 That £13.50 2-10: 1 TRICKLE AD IN Uniform on 5-2-30: 2 Tighter Budget 7-2 3. Tough Test 7-3 6 raw 1 - 10-40 4 February Total \$1.60: \$1.40 - 21-50 - 91-2-90 - (37-£10.30 Tabullar to Secretary \$6.5)

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19 81. 3.10: 1. BAS DE LAINE (* G. *** 5-1. 2. Fiveleigh Burks 7-7 3. Bank Ook 5-1 5 ran, 2-5 st. Concomming Light (***) 8, 3 M. Harmond, Totes 12, 80 11, 20, 25 (*) DF, 2020 CO (SE, 210 80)

DF. C12 (V. CSF. C10 80 3.40: 1. CLEVER BOY U.W. on 10 1, 2. Kasarama 11-1 3. Cash Box 12 1 9 van.

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3.20: 1 SUPER TACTICS ****

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■ Henricss- Gold Cup Milliounte Sur.

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ACING SERVICES

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2.50: 1 QUEEN'S AWARD CALLARM ...

1.00: 1. MIGHTY MOSS ANT HUSE: 13-

most want to win right now.

Dettori also talked about living, as a youngster, in the shadow uf his father, the Italian champion jockey Gianfranco

"I was very overshadowed by my dad's doings and it's funny, hut it wasn't until I left home at 14 that my real character, my real personality came up and in a way I look back and think 'if I had stayed at home, would I be in this position now?

"And I would say no because my parents were so intimidating and so strong that I don't think I would have ever been able to come out of my shell." When Dettori left home he came to England and under the

wing of the leading Newmarket

trainer and fellow Italian. Luca

The ex-champion admits that Cumani taught him a lot about racing in his eight years at the Bedford House yard. "I owe a lot to him, he took

time to teach me a lot of things, discipline, riding," But it was a relationship which was to turn sour. "... I was having some success and obviously me and him too couldn't



Dettori: wants Derby win

handle the situation and the riding wasn't my Nu I prion'ty anymore. "I was getting a little bit of money. I was getting a little bit successful and I just went off the rails."

Going off the rails led to a brush with the law for the young Dettori. "It's common knowledge that

four years ago I got caught by the police and I had a small quantity of cocaine. I got cautioned by the police, not charged. "It was the best thing that could have happened to me. It

gave me a good kick up the backside. -... I had to stop acting like a prat and grow up. It was time to mature and do what you are supposed to do - which in my case was tu go out there and show my natural talent and ride horses."

Dettori's feeling Bets row rumbles on

The fuzzy oature of the rules governing disputes between backers and bookmakers was highlighted once again yesterday when the Sporting Life's Green Seal Service, a longestablished but unaccouotable panel of arbitrators, decided that Coral were justified in refusing to pay Terry O'Callaghan, a Cardiff punter, the £259,200 he believes he is owed as his return on a football bet placed on 10 September.

Though the argument between O'Callaghan and Coral centres oo sports betting rather than racing, it is still one which should be of concern to anyone who ever places a bei.

problem with O'Callaghao's coupon is that Ron Chivers, the manager of the Cardiff bening shop where he placed his bet did not pass it through a security camera, which is designed to ensure that blank slips are not timestamped and then filled once the result of an event is known.

Coral did not suggest that O'Callaghan and Chivers colluded or plotted to defraud the company in any way, but none the less argued that its rules, which state that the firm reserves the right to declare void any betting slip with whose bona fides we are not satisfied", allowed it to refuse payment.

BETTENS: 9-4 Drumcullen, 3-1 Bethyen Boy, 4-1 Micking, 9-2 Ceitic Silver, 5-1 Ardersony Chief 1995: Over The Scham 9 11 11 I Murphy 2-1 (K Balley) 4 ran

FORM CHIDE

David Nicholson Mess to pit the occasion of chasing newcomer straight into a handicap, and the interesting thing about BALLYEA BOY is the ground. He sire, Somestry, toxed a best surface, so the testing ground encurribined by Ballyea Boy last access would not have been ideal, this performances in staying hurdes were price; sold and the way he shaped on his reappearance nere last season (scorn to Bucket Of Gold) gave planty of hope for the future. Micklug won here first time out lost season (poor receip and the stable's Telment crusted nome on his reappearance yeaternlay. The mare needs plantly of pushing and this type of testing course would always surface. Celtic Silver looks ready to perform after his second to Royal Vacation over a shorter than X Kelso. The highlight of his white lost term were his fine jumping and his stable is employing orgent run. Diminischlain won a small race with his smalter index at Hurtingdon in September, but he looks harshy hearted off this 6th higher mark for a lucky win at homeon where Maseer Orchestra went tame on the run to the last. Anterior of the first with his his fars, getting weight all round and with Richard Durwoody booled, However, the gelding bot his way last season and is bypossed even if the recent Bangor run behind Backlous will have improved him.

Selections BALLYEA BOY

2.20 KEYLINE BUILDERS MERCHANTS NOVICE HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS 2) £3,000 added 2m Penalty Value £2,303

FORM GUIDE.

Rangithal, left clear when Tim Easterbys Durano les at the lest in Mariet Rissin 19 days ago, was righly tried beforehand and should like this stiff track being a bumper winner, He has every hope of defying the 12st in such a poor race, but WITNEY-DE-BERGERAIC has write on the Flat to his name and shaped as though wenting a stiffer track when therd worthoughout manifes at Hundragion in August. He is fit from a recent run on the level and this is certainly easer compared to Ascot on Sandawn last season. Red Light again has the damer aboard after his neck second to Printscath or Warneck. He looks bearstake on that form and Mir Poppleton, 11 lengths behind in third and now 20 worse off, might do better for the services of Jamie Osborne. Sheers Desight won a seeler here and then followed up over a longer tip at Fakentown, but has not raced since early-Jine. Ernste William has a squable of the weights ofter facing a stem test herind Option (Jones of Ascot, but Swing Lucky, another senior winner on this course, has to executive a lengthy ebsence. Bold Charlie has been taked off on all stants over both codes and the only hope for him is the first venture on decent ground.

Salection: WITNEY-DE-BERGERAC

| 2.50 | FRISH R M NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £3,105 | 1.5773.5 | COPPER CABLE (6) (Downey Linky Scot) C Snith 9 11.3 | M. Rimger 2 0703.8 | REYTO MOVINGE (6) (Pris Scot) E Appert M Villaryon 6 11.3 | M. A. Maggiet 8 2011.5 | ROURE (6) (11.5) per) Scoting W Code of De Michaelon 8 11.3 | M. A. Maggiet 8 4 031025 | Hilliand M. Carlos (6) (Pris Maggiet Code of Code

SETTRIC: 6-4 Trinking Tulos, 5-2 Rotts, 4-1 Second Cott, 8-1 Uphrant Rescut, 12-1 Copper Cable,

Thinking Twice wins this hands down on his top hurdies form, but his younger rival ROLFE has looked the type for this game and he improved over hurdies when blatikes series fitted, winning last backerd at Stratford and Ultimeter. A summer jumps where on a return to the loveler, he now switches to change after hinding the handsappers too sharp at Soutland. Training Twice acts on both tast and soft ground and has reportedly schooled well at home. Last seen in a solition at the Punchestonian Festival in A part, he did win lost term those Solitab at Chepstow), but Rolfe is forwared to beat him with the Nicholson horses running so well.

FORM GUIDE

Greg Wood on a dispute between a punter and a top bookmaker

The Life's Green Seal Service, the membership of which remains anonymous, agreed. The National Association for the Protection of Punters, the only organisation devoted sole-

ly to the campaign for backers' rights, reacted to the decision with anger and disappointment. "The Service seems to be set up entirely to interpret the bookmakers' rules without giv-

those are actually fair." Steve High, a NAPP spokesman, said. "It's completely one-sided, it's unaccountable and it doesn't have any teeth anyway, because even if they had found against Coral, they are under oo obligation to pay up. There was no suggestion of any collusion, they just seem to have found a

ing any thought to whether

reason for not paying."
Trevor Beaumont, Coral's trading director, said yesterday that "if the rules were not fair, I think we would have more problems, and they are very much the norm in the industry. We are following up certain issues, a process which might be finished tomorrow, next week or

pared to review this any further there should be an independent in the press. As far as we are betting ombudsman," High concerned, the matter is said.

is coocerned, however, it is anything but. British law still clings to the quaint notion that a gentieman's word is his bond and that gambling disputes are not a matter for the courts, but O'Callaghan intends to pursue a slightly different tack.

"I will see my barrister in the morning," he said yesterday,

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Celtic Silver NB: Just Loui (Lingfield 2.40)

"and we will definitely be going down the legal route. We believe Coral breached their duty of care and that they processed the bet without due diligence."

O'Callaghan's argument is, in effect, that be should not be made to pay for an error by Coral. How far it will get him is anyone's guess, but if the case highlights the manifest flaws of the present situation for resolving differences, every punter in Britain will owe him a debt of granitude.

oext month, but I am not pre- NAPP for a long time that

This is roughly a £6bn in-As far as Terry O'Callaghan dustry, and it is something which works very well in areas like banking and insurance The ombudsman could be funded by the Levy Board, which after all deals with money collected entirely from punters, and could publish an annual report highlighting significant cases, explaining why rulings were made and showing how they might be applied in the

It would benefit the whole mdustry as well as the puoters, who just doo't know where they are at the moment. They will lose faith in the system and before you know it they will be off betting on the National Lottery instead."

Uotil a more opeo and ac-

countable system is in place, the clear advice for punters is to make absolutely sure that their slip has passed through the

camera.

Ladbrokes have cut Addington Boy to 6-1 from 7-1 and Kibreet from 8-1 to 7-1 for Saturday's Murphy's Gold Cup. On the drift were Dublin Flyer (13-2 from 6-1), Call It A Day (11-1 from 10-1) and Absa-

Second Call is a more who runs well when fresh, though she has been unlucky in chasing, She tall with Richard Dunwoody in Inchastioch's race at Nempton when making her reap-pearance last season and, even with a clear round today, the other pair may prove too strong

3.20 0F3-0

11 33- ROTHL MALER (187) (20th Freut') 1 Gifford 5 10 7 ________ Penns
12 5300- BEPTEMBER BENEZE (1887) [1 P Teach 1 Teach 5 10 7 _______ R Sentity
12 dectared — RETING: 7-4 Potter's Galax 4-1 Royal Rades 1-1 Mayla Magic, 6-1 River Bay, 8-1 Martunelon, 16-1 Lady High Stieriti, Suptember December 2-1 Mayla Magic, 6-1 River Bay, 8-1 Martunelon, 18-1 Lady High Stieriti, Suptember December 2-0-1 Others
1895: Mars Cashini 4 10 12 5 Nichell 7-2 (D T Thom) 4 ran

Mighty Mass won on his hurdles about at Worpester yesterday and POTTER'S GALE, second to that belented stablemate on her bumper about at Hurningdon, can tollow suit. With Cursaulif Modi's ider claiming file, Potter's Gale was concading a stone to that winner when a creditable second in a bumper at Exister last week. That rur will stand Potter's Gale in good steed for today's first attempt over hurdles and, being a doughter of Strong Gale, she will prater this ground to the soft at Haldon, Boyal Ruller is another daughter of Strong Gale, and she has reportedly been working well at home, Her bumper rurs were not that good, but this is more her game and the testing course should suit her. River Bay needs to do better after being besten by Mighty Moss at Nottingham on her debut. This half-sister to Denymous is likely to do better when stepped up in distance. Mayfile Magle is the only other of note, the has Rechard Durwoody on her date for her kumping datuit and she tan very well on her debut at Heretord a year ago when caught on the line by Kontford Tina — the third Supreme Lady going on to win two over hurdles.

Selection: POTTER'S GALE

"It's been an objective of lom's Lady (12-1 from 10-1).

Selection: R	OLFE
MOONLIGHTER MARIES NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3/	000
BELING-MOOR (15) (Createst Tree Partnership) M Maggirdge 4 10 7C Lies	ellyn
BRIDGE DELICHT (851) (Hopeld Racing) M Wilderson 710 7	men.
LADY HIGH SHERRIF (252) (Nic Michael Word-Thomas) Capt 7 Forster 8 10 7	day
MAYEN MAGE (201) IF LIPSCOMIN T Casey 5 10 7 R Dunner March (201) IF & 8 Partners) D Wintle 5 10 7 R Bull	
MOOR HALL LADY (187) IR S Brookhouse) N Baldage 5 10 7 W Mer POTTER'S GALE (8) (BP) (J E Potter) O Nicholson 5 10 7 A Mer	STOR
NVSR BAY (194) (Remoted Racing) Mea H Kright 5 10 7 J F 1 ROYAL MAUSE (187) (Cain Freury) J Colord 5 10 7 P	bley
MANNE STATES (1911) STATE LIGHTS 1 CARDS 3 TO L	

3.50 WICKEN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m

L,		of Permity Value 22,552
1	11334	BRASS OF MAR (197) Queen Blashepo N Hunderson 8 12 0
2	58132-2	PORTUNES COURSE (MA) (Mrs A.) Gerrett) J King 7 11 6
3	1-21215	CLEAN EDGE (USA) (15) (U) (Mrs Sue Ademy)) Maride 4 11 () E Husband (3)
4	551290-	PYRAMIS PRINCE (200) (John Wilyer) John Wilyes 6 10 12
5	33441-3	SELVER STANDARD (14) & W Luggi Copt T Forster 8109 S Wymne B
8	21-235	LA MENORQUINA RISA) 59 (Joe Anter) O Mens 8 10 6 A McCarthy
7	26000-6	DAFFLER'S BEST (USA) [129] (Miss M C Routent) Miss M Routond 6 10 8
8		EUPHOPEC (965) (Park Storre) Baking 6 10 1
9	0/10005-	MERCENA (236) (D) (G A I known) G Hubbard S 10 0
		-9 declared
-		

FORM GUIDE

It might have been the seme story at Scratford a formight ago had she not cloured the fourth last. She bottled back with to be bectern only half-alrength by Tains Bridgs, with Saver Scondard (bearin 16 lengths) not good enough to repeat his win first time out of last season. Despite being 4th worse in, Fortunes Course can confirm that form with Tain Forser's gelding. But EURPHONIC takes the type with a feather weight and Jamie Ostomic booked. He was despiporming in two starts after his Evider debut win time years ago, but ian Baidway has trained the gelding (time Plat runs) for another crack at the winter gisme, and he Kempton hard to Duntam showed the ability was retained. Likely to relies the trig. Euphonic must take the beating at these weights. Brews Of Mair won easily from the Black Monk first time up lest seeson and he times went crashing. He has a good claimer aboard today, but the weight concession to Euphonic etas him a task, i.e. Bleenergating Rise a stiff track and this mare, along with the Wordester and Sedgefield witner Claim Edge, are likely to go well without beating Euphonic.

TOWCESTER

2.50 Second Call (nb) 3.20 Potter's Gale 2.20 Rangitikei

Registrated, undulumny on the learner of 1 (1994).

Recognitive is on A's south-case of town, this service from Northempson rathery station. ADMISSTON: Members 212. Tather-sale SN: Course SA (Car plus all occupants 213) CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: O Brennan — 23 winners from 103 runners error a success rate of 22.3% and a profit to a 51 level stake of 57.31; B Nicholson — 10 winners, 43 runners, 10 8%, +577.28; J Gilford — 10 winners, 43 runners, 18.7% SE 77; T Forster— 8 winners, 71 runners, 11.7%, 570.58

LEADING JOCKETS: Marcha Brennang — 22 winners, 95 ricks, 22.7%, +55.91; A Magnire— 17 winners, 165 ricks, +51.97; A Dunmody — 13 winners, 62 ricks, 21.7%, +50.00

BUNNERS DE TREE TRAINS TABLE Some, with 18.7%, +525.00

BUNNERS DE TREE TRAINS SEVEN DAYS; None, winners DE TREE LAST SEVEN DAYS; None,

	LONG-DIS	TANCE RUNNERS: Cross Talk has been sent 102 miles by N Talkie in North Forkship
	1.20	FLURRY KNOX SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,650 adder 2m Penalty Value £2,115
Ì	.551.00.	TRAMANDU (302) (CD) (R A Stront C James 6 11 0
1	3	CROSS TALK (Pile Raging Clair N links 4 10 12 J Octobers
1	3 01,74	AUST FOR A REASON (19) (0) (RT Judics) R Judics 4 10 12 W Marshan
	2	MASTER UPEX IA S Newest A Newes 4 10 12

- 11 declared -SETTING: 9-4 Tansol, 3-1 Cross Talls, 7-2 MBy Star, 8-1 Tansonda, 10-1 My Hardrick, 14-1 Brown

1995: See You Aways 5 11 2 W Av-Farland 75-1 nG Charles-Jonesi 5 ran 1995. See You Assays 5 11 2 W Net around 75-1 of Cremer-Inners 5 ran FORM GUIDE

Tamandiums the each-way value here on her course win a year ago. That seller was not that good, but she saw off her rhads after leading three but - the wan following a recent outing on the all-weather. Uptith reced this Flat season, Tamandu looks good for another sound performance after a worm-up run on the level 19 days ago. CROSS TAIK is the Bleety choose on his jurnos debut with Jamio Osborne booked. He slayed well on the Flat and comes here from two sound efforts - the gelding drawing away for a three-length Yambusth with a fortung a good ago. That was Cross Taik's their start some Night Indian secured him for 5,000gts out of Reg Hothinshead's yard, and he will take the bearing with a trouble-free round. Tomail has trace here hymothers farme at the start over the post few yeards. Rated some way behand Cross Taik on the level, he hung in brinned young Rodical liast of the at Chettenham afterwards when beatern nere fine needs ago. Just Fer A Reuseian has changed stables shoe his claimer win from Pleach. To Draw at Lucilow in Feb Violensier last month. Willy Star is from an in-form stable and his best Flat run was a short-

ı	10.72	10 061511	DALEN O' 21 MULTIN LOCAL ON BIT KINDING SI LEBURGAL IN WAY SECREDAR CHASS INC				
	1	50	TIFFIELD HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3n 1f Penalty Value £3,738				
Ì	1	125-26	MORLEP (205) (C) Lord Cacogoni Capt T Forces 9 11 10				
	1:	021111	DESIRECULLEN (S) (C) (D) dilution Booth M. Barley (11 7 (size)				
- 1	3	2320-	BALLYEA 807 (215) (0-ras 9am): 0 (Apraison 6 31 6 A Magners				
	~	- 30	CELTIC SILVER (12) (D) Alts 5 Smm Alts 5 Smm 8 10 12				

1.00 Nova Run 1.30 Chickabiddy 2.00 Indira 2.30

ROSENCRANTZ (nap) 3.00 Copper Coll 3.30 Her-

Restablished compose Hansin on Physics
 Linear corong country of traverous RATO Transfers station for ADMISSIONS Members \$415 Penaka is 55 feet, Control of Control

BLINKE, EED FIEST TIME; Fearless Wonder (1991), Soldier Blue

(200) Questan (200) WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Now, DONG-DISTANCE OF INNERS: Blurred Engle (2004) Substance (2004) International Control of Profrontion Leave Engles.

1.00 SOUTH-WEST AMATEURS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,450 2m 3f 110yds

HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,450 2m 1f

2. Section 4 - 1. Section 5. Section 5. Section 5. Section 5. Section 5. Section 6. Section 6

of CAR PARK: Order of course 5 t, repaired: from

TAUNTON

GOEStic times to Frate

bert Buchanan 4.00 Little Jake

CC296-1 PORTSCATHO (9) A Jone 4 11.5 S Modell 8
ADDRESS O Exacts 4 10.12 A Process
6-63 ALL SERN UP CL3 R Sayer 4 10.12 B Panell
CC4.060 MARC WIZHED (197) II Ruske 5 10.12 C Moude
GELLS CHORE 4 Smgl 4 13.12 F Facusor
3 NORDANCE PRINCE (755) Mrs. Gry Rolescy 5 10.12 ... > OUT ON A PROMISE (343) R Wafer - 10 12

(CLASS D) £4,000 3m 110yds						
1	500-234	COPPER COS. (8) 1/2 Turner 8 10 12				
2	0	DUNCES CASTLE (8) R Tipes 5 10 17 Proof				
3	543	FRAME HAYLAR (238) R But to 5 10 12 M Delines [7]				
4	15-	HONEY MOURT (300) N (1/202) 5 10 12 N WESTER				
5	C-05-12	MUTADE DO P BASE 2 20 11 B Postel				
ė		DRIGORNIST (5) (BF) O Bartist 5 10; D.J Barthell H				
7		GALATASOR MANE (35) P Noto(5 5 10 7 A P McCoy				
В	054470	KATHARRES SONG 191 O PACE 6 10 T				
9	مرازات وا	LAMPA LYE (14) 8 De Man 6 IG T J Palen				
		- 9 declared -				
8E	TRIVE: 6-4	Galatasori Jano. 9-2 Copper Call, 6-1 Honey Moonl, 8-1.				
		Description 15.1 Dates Profit 12.1 refere				

7		GRATASORI JANE (35) P Notors 5 10 7 A P McCoy
В	054470	KATHWARES SONG ST O HAZE 6 ID T B PROBER
9	شانان ود	LAURA LYE 140 8 Do Man 6 16 7 J Railton
Ref	777NG- G-4	Galatasori Jano, 9-2 Copper Call, 6-1 Honey Mount, 8-1.
		Dragowniel, 16-1 Dukes Castle, 12-1 others
[3.30	WSM MERCEDES BENZ HANDROAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 3m
I		THE BLUE BOY (25) (CD) ? Squerr & 12 0 H Williamson B
:		HERERI BUCHANAN ISI (C) Piterste 6 11 12
3	PILE	HENLEY WOOD (28) FCI PHOOD II 119 I Honey
ī		LA RECERNY (15) Str. Straters 3 100 D Water (3)
- 5		GALLIC GER. (15) C Parter, 6 100 T Describe (3)
6	27-732	PRODUCE FUN (220) R BUSINE 7 10 0
2	90. Remai	ht 10% Tre himatis wegt to Materia 9% 10% Calle Gal. n Fut 3% 5%.
		The Stop Boy, 5-2 Herbert Buchanos, 3-1 Heriey Wood, 6- , 19-1 Rhoman Feb, 15-1 Gallic Stri
1	4.00	WEATHERBYS OPEN NH FLAT RACE

1.30 WSM MERCEDES BENZ NOVICE HANDI-CAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 2m 3f (CLASS H) £1,550 2m 1f - 5 declared -5ETTING: 11-10 Hordic Valley, 3-1 Chickshiddy, 4-1 Astrocad Rombier, 5-1 Lord Nilangen, 16-1 Oxford Quali MING OF THE BLUES I Fre 4 11 4

2.00 ORCHARD PORTMAN SELLING HANDICAP LITTLE BUE NOW I Charge 5 11 4. O COUNTESS MILE (257) Lies & Wichouse - 10 1 500 HALAM SELL (9) Wilmer - 10 13. O MASS MORT ON 1918 First \$ 10 13 Photos - 10 deciated -BETTING: 9-4 Little Joine, 7-2 King of The Blues, 6-1 Scoring Pedigree 6-1 Nides, 8-1 Miss Might Out, 14-1 Halom Bell, 16-1 others. 60) REMEMBER STAR (35) 4 Smith 3 190 F Jour

I lockey Jonothan Lower, who was forced into premature retirement when found to have diabetes, completed a crucial stage in his bid to revive his career when iding work at Newhory yesterday. The Martin Pipe stafwart, out of action since his application to renew hislicence was declined by the lockey Club in the summer, returned to the racecourse for the second time this season for a post-racing gallop. Having previously ridden at Eveter, be guided an immamed Pipetrained Lepanto four-year-old around two miles of the circuit and returned to unsaddle feeling "100%".

LINGFIELD

HYPERION 12.10 The Roundstills 12.40 Blaze Of Song 1.10 Smithereens 1.40 Premier 2.10 Opera Buff 2.40 Mry Woo 3.10 Madrina 3.40 Alfayza

STALLS: (in - outside; rest - inside.

OBAW ADVANTAGE: Low best in sprints.

Explirach surface; left-hard, starp undubting course.

Course is NE of fourn on BUCCS. Lingleid station (served by tension, Varieus) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 5 [1], Furnity Enclosure 59. CAR PARK: Clob 53; remainder free. SIS RACING

BLINERED FIRST TIME: Polar Clamp (2.10). WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN BATS: Lammshire Logend (1.10), Smithercens [1.10), Parsian Conquest (2.10)& Arzeni (3.40) Santherreams [1,10], Parsian Conquest (2,10) & Arzana (3,40) won at Langled on Thursday.

LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Alfayza (3,40) has been som 270 males by 1 Bedwell from Middledum, North Tortaining: Shortaine (1,10) & Premiler (1,40) and 270 miles by M Johnston from Middledum, North Yorkside.

12.10 FAUCETS GROHE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV I) £4,250 ZYO 1m (AW)

-9 Sectored -SETTING: 2-1 Protocol, 5-1 Old Colony, 5-1 Chief Pres

12.40 FAUCETS GROHE HANDICAP (CLASS E) (DIV I) £3,700 1m 2f (AW) ___S Sunon______S Certer 3 DOOS MAJONISMA (85) RAMEBURG 387....

1.10 FAUCETS GROHEDAL APPRENTICE HAND-ICAP (CLASS G) £3,000 71 (AW)

501146 SPEEM CLASSIC (40) (CD) II Heston-Els 7 9 135 Drowne 7 930061 SMITHEREINS (7) (CD) P Hatelyn 3 9 7 (Tex)... S Copp (5) 5 050001 LANGASHRE (EBERTO (7) (CD) 6 Dow 3 9 7 (Tex)... Done 074clil 1 E 201030 DON PEPE (15) DI R 805 5 9 3

1.40 FAUCETS GROHE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,250 2YO 1m (AW) D) (DNV II) £4,250 210 1m (ANV) OD FREEDOM CHANCE (17) J HBs 9 0 ... D Hol MAYES WAY I MAS 9 0 ... \$5 sm DD IL PERVEYE (27) John Bony 9 0 ... 7 WIRE SECO PAULSANDER (64) \$ Dow 9 0 ... Done of Maries FREDIERR (22) M Johnston 9 0 ... Done of McKe DD PURCHASING POWER (21) N Catagian 9 0 ... \$ White SO SERPANDE (15) M Hayes 9 0 ... 4 Del ED LOCALASS (46) \$ Woods B 9 ... D B O MACARONI BEACH (22) C British 8 9 ... M Rob - 9 declared ...

2.10 FAUCETS GROHEART CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 1m 4f (AW) 30A30 OPERA BUFF (152) (CD) Mes 6ay Velbuchy 5 9 25 Senders 8
000007 PERSIAN CONQUEST (7) (CD) R Ingran 4 9 2A MicGiane 1 B
402210 POLAR CRUMP (44) 5 Woods 3 9 1 ... W Ryan 9 B
0-16300 PERMICE MENSIN (14) (C) Luch Huntregolo 3 9 12D Hantson 8
00 PERMICE MENSIN (14) (C) Luch Huntregolo 3 9 12D Hantson 8
2-3551 SMALIN IN WESTAN (36) P Crepte-Hyan 3 8 10.6 Deficial 7
2-46350 STEAMHOLLER STANK (26) C Cycer 3 8 10 ... G Carter 2
2-65500 MORE THIN YOU KNOW (34) K Burke 3 8 5 ... J Quinn 4
05 POTALA (4) R Amestrug 3 B 5 ... J Stank 3

BETTING: 9-4 Smills N Vitable, 3-1 Poler Champ, 4-1 Opera Buff, 5-1 Prince Renly, 6-1 Streameler Starty, 7-1 Persian Conquest, 14-1 others

2.40 FAUCETS CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 2YO 6F (AW) 140540 MASTERSTROKE (2) (D) 8 Meeten 9 3 . 122500 LAST CHANCE (18) C Alen 8 11...... SHE'S ELECTRIC J Bridger 8 0 200604 SHERT VALLEY (S) 8 Meeting

SETTING: 5-2 Just Loui, 3-1 Come You Man Silent Valley, 8-1 Jilly Woo, Masterstroke, FAUCETS GROHETEC MAIDEN STAKES 13 800300 TIME FOR TEA (45) COpper 3 8 11...

– 13 doctored – BETERC: 5-2 Madrice, 3-1 Rest, 4-1 Time For Tex, 6-1 School Boy, 6-1 Mareschine, 12-1 Mystery Matthias, 14-1 Lawsleine, 16-1 others 3.40 FAUCETS GROHE HANDICAP (CLASS E) (DIV II) £3,700 1m 2f (AW)

65-0001 AKZNH (7) (CD) 0 Cosgous 58 11 (Ges) ... R Nes 005540 OHT IN THE ETE (13) Junio Poulton 38 1... 5. D 064020 AHRXIX (13) Bethol 3 7 13... 1 W 005000 PAROMONASKA (18) J L Hamb 4 7 10... J

— 8 declared —
Alinkruss weight: 7st 10th. The handlap weight: Parahomese 7st 2th.
BETTING: 7-4 Arami, 9-2 Tomocout, 5-1 Our Eddia, Altegra, 6-1 Absolutelysteming, 8-1 One in The Eye, 12-1 others

Marsh wary of his old rivals

Cricket

MYLES HODGSON reports from Mount Gambier

England A will begin preparations for the next big test of their tour Down Under tomorrow knowing they have already beeo paid a big compliment from one of their oldest adversaries.

Rodney Marsh, the former Australian Test wicketkeeper who is now head coach of the much-heralded Academy, has picked two over-age players in his squad for the four-day match at the Marist Park ground following England's sensational victory over the Sheffield Shield bolders, South Australia, in Adelaide earlier this week.

Marsh has called up the 25year-old Jeremy Allen, a seamer who bas already represented Western Australia at state level, and the 23-year-old Sbawn Craig, 3 left-handed opener who scored a century against the Academy for Victoria 2nd XI last season, into his side after claiming his current crop are weaker than previous years.

England will not name their side until the manager, David Graveney, the coach, Mike Gatting, and the captain, Adam Hollioake, have inspected the pitch, which is in an extinct volcano. after being prevented from doing so yesterday by overnight rain. Jason Gallian has recovered from a hand injury while Dean Headley may be rested.

Don Kenyon, 72, Worcestershire's first Couoty Championship winning captain, bas died in bospital after being taken ill at a function at New Road, Kenyoo, wbo played eight Tests for England, had been attending a members' cricket evening to show a film of a world tour undertaken by the club during his playing days.

Obituary, page 16

Standbridge on board with Conner

Sailing STUART ALEXANDER

Having made protracted attempts to organise his own British challenge for 1997-98, the four-times Whitbread veteran Paul Staodbridge is to join Dennis Conner's American Toshiba Challenge as watch cap-

tain for Chris Dickson. Standbridge joins the Australian oavigator Andrew Cape and expects two more senior appointments in the near future.

Conner's Bruce Farr-designed yacht is being built in the United States. The deck is already under construction but work on the hull will be delayed as long as possible to incorporate late modifications to the design and ideas. Dickson was close to winning

the 1993-94 race at his first attempt until being dismasted on the leg from Uruguay to Fort Lauderdale. As the race was then calculated on total elapsed time, his chances immediately evaporated. In 1997-98 each leg will count separately to a pointsbased result. The eight yachts in the Clip-

per '96 race organised by Sir Robin Knox-Johnston for farepaying crews, are expected to finisb their transatlantic leg from Madeira for Fort Lauderdale over the next 24 hours led by Ariel, skippered by Raz Turner. Yves Parlier's radically

designed Aquitaine Innovations continues to lead the Vendée Globe single handed non-stop round-the-world race from Isabelle Autissier and Herve Laurent.

TODAY'S FIXTURES Football

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE Celtic v Rangers (8.0) ... PONTINS LEAGUE First Division: West Brownish v Shellield Utd (7.0) (at Halescwen

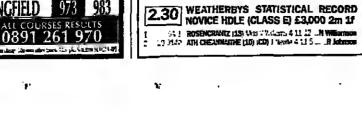
FA YOUTH CUP First round: Charlion v Ave-ley (7.30); Reading v Dulwich Hamlet (7.45). ENDLY: Dover v Crystal Palace (7.45). Other sports BADMINTON: England v Chine (Bath). ICE SKATING: British Championships (Guid-

TENNES: Guardian Direct Nationals (Telford).

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of Arsenal supporters expected at Highbury on Saturday to watch the Premiership game with Man-chester United live from Old Trafford. Arsenal were allocated only 3,000 seats for the 55,000 capacity sell-out.





Most, including the majority in boxing, were convinced Tyson would overwhelm Holyfield and possibly put him in hospital

A good question about Evander Holyfield's quite sensational defeat of Mike Tyson in Las Vegas last week to become a three-times world heavyweight champion is why was he almost completely written off in

On the basis that anything can happen when heavyweights are in the ring, caution was advised here and there, but most people, including the majority in boxing, were convinced that Tyson would overwhelm the challenger and possibly put him in hospital.

Of 48 reporters, myself included, polled by a Las Vegas newspaper only Ron Borges of the Boston Globe made out a case for Holyfield, predicting that he would win in the ninth round. If not spot on, this

Borges - he bet \$200 (£125) on Holyfield at 12-1 - unlike some seekers of notoriety I have known, didn't take what is known in the trade as a flier. Importantly, his faith in Holyfield sprang entirely from the application of logic. First, Holyfield's immense will; then the fact that he had knocked over much larger men than Tyson who bad not been struck seriously since renewing his career in the ring. Borges also took into account the confidence he sensed when in conversation with the challenger. "The more I thought about it, the more I listened to Holyfield and his people, the more obvious his chances became." Borges said.

I am no less experienced than Borges in these matters but logic led me and many others up a different alley. For example, Mickey Duff, in last week's Boxing News, said, "It's an easy fight for Tyson and will last a maximum of four rounds, probahly less. There's nn contest. It's a complete and total mismatch. Naseem Hamed's trainer, Brendan Ingle, was no less adamant in announcement of a bad night for Holyfield. "Tyson will destroy him," Ingle said. "He'll bash Holyfield up in about two rounds. It won't go past three. There's nn way Holyfield

for Tyson.

can win, not a cat in hell's chance.

I just can't see it. Holyfield is made



"the fight will open our eyes to how Tyson takes a shnt," the former featherweight champion. Barry McGuigan, said - hut most, including the doyen of trainers. Ed-You can go on and on like this. die Futch, who has worked with

any man alive, were unequivocal in their belief that Holyfield would be battered senseless. "I really did feel Commission's medical panel spoke that Evander was taking an awful chance," Futch admitted.

Why? Well, logic of course. There was Holyfield's age, 34, and the knowledge that he is an artificially enlarged heavyweight who under-went tests for a heart condition in May 1994 after losing the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles to Michael Moorer. Since then Holyfield, particularly when struggling to a technical knock-ont over the limited Bobby Czyz, had done nothing that argued against the advisability of retirement. As Holyfield was required to visit the Mayo Clinic in

out against the contest, no hope could be held out for the challenger. Taking everything into account, three rounds was the most he could

wrong recalls the amazing record that an American boxing writer, the late Boh Waters of Newsday, had when going against the odds put up for heavyweight championship bouts. Waters, a former amateur middleweight who once fought an exhibition bout against the great middleweight Tony Zale and drank the most vicious dry martinis imaginable, was one of the few to pre-dict a victory for the young braggart

John Beck was left "feeling empty" after his Lincoln City

side were denied another Coca-

Cola Cup giant-killing by

fightback at Sincil Bank on

it seemed that the second-half

heroics of the Lincoln goal-

keeper, Barry Richardson,

would secure another famous

scalp, Southampton won a 75th-

minute penalty and Jim Mag-

Lincoln's stubborn resistance

began to crumble and the sub-

stitute Gordon Watson pounced

to put Southampton ahead six

minutes from time. Eyal

Berkovitch, the club's recent

signing, added a third lathe last

minute and Lincoln's Cup run

was over leaving Beck to pon-

gertip save to keep out Gijsbert

stadt, had been the major turn-

ilton scored the equaliser.

He correctly forecast the outcome of three contests between Floyd Patterson and Ingernar Johansson as well as George Foreman over Jue RU

Basul

Ben missor

Board hearing

Before it became a strain - "if I'm wrong my editors complain and put it down to drinking — Waters was one of only two writers (the Sun's boxing writer. Colin Hart, shares the distinction) to predict that Muhammad Ali would defeat Forcman in Zaire. Typically, instead of returning home in triumph Waters, a terrific newspaperman, went off to report on a famine.

Waters's advice was to always think logically about boxing. Would he, I wonder, have picked Holyfield

Beck rues

Proof that money dulls the passion

Mike Rowbottom analyses the findings of the biggest-ever football supporters' survey

The largest-ever survey of foot- Research. "It does have the efthat the habits of those watching the domestic game are evolving in parallel with those changes taking place on the pitch. The third FA Premier

League Fan Survey, released yesterday, gained 20.470 responses to 58,000 questionnaires, of which 17.214 came from season-ticket holders.

Football, on this evidence, still has a crucial importance for many supporters - one in four described it as "one of the most important things in my life". But there is an indication that some of the followers are becoming increasingly semi-detached - passion giving way to leisure.

Among supporters earning £10,000 per year or less, three out of four said football-watching was "one of the most important things in my life". Of bad language might congrethose earning £30,000 or more, gate behind the goals, they are those earning £30,000 or more, a small majority described it

just another thing that I do". The survey also identified a number of better-paid fans who They may want to see as few they can be sure of seeing Vialli or Manchester United," said the report's author. John Williams of the Sir Norman

fect of excluding other types of supporters who might have attended on an ad hoc hasis. Clubs seem to be focusing on a lucrative section of the popula-tion," Williams said. "But I have no doubt there is a section of supporters who don't connect with football clubs as their parents did.

Rick Parry, the Premier League's chief executive, acknowledged the "potential danger" of undercutting the fan hase. "But," be said, "I don't think clubs will be depressed about their increasing numbers of affluent supporters." New ticketing and seating

arrangements at clubs have affected the naturally occurring social divisions within crowds. Whereas previously those who wanted to let off steam and use now being ohliged to sit alongside others for whom such activity was distressing.

Williams pointed out that iswere using a season ticket as a sues such as bad language were a press for certain matches. porters, but that opinion was sharply divided on the topic, with as 12 or 13 home games, where some objecting to it and others complaining that stewards and police interfere too much. While ruling out the likeli-hood of establishing "optional offensive language areas", Par-



looking at experimenting with "singing areas". Accompanying hand music, of the type Glenn

white, ethnic minorities from the ranks of spectators. Although the current national (1991 Census) figure for the population of non-white ethnic minority communities in Britain is just under five per cent, the minority community in the within the game remains, as last 1996 sample reports just 1.1 per town, while Manchester City year, around one in eight, with

said the Premiership was cent non-white respondents in also has a poor return here, esall and 0.9 per cent non-white season ticket holders. Arsenal lead the table, but even they only Hoddle is currently trying to en-courage on England's behalf, is season ticket holders. At the othalso seen as a positive option. er end of the league come Man-This year's figures point to the chester City, Southampton (both ontinuing absence of non- 0.3 per cent). Blackburn (0.2)

> and Newcastle (0.1). "Blackburn Rovers seem to attract little local ethnic minority support," the report said. "despite recent cluh successes and a substantial (mainly Asian)

pecially given the multi-racial nature of the Moss Side area of the city in which the Maine Road ground is located.

"In this last case, poverty rather than ethnicity per se may be the stronger barrier to season club which many people adopt, ricket purchase, though it is also rather than grow up with. They perhaps significant that City and Blackburn were two clubs in the Premier League to have few, or no, hlack players in their first team squads in 1995/96."

The number of female fans

der over what might have been. Beck felt Chris Woods' finmost season-ticket holders be-Bos header five minutes after ing found at Nottingham For-Ainsworth's opener and Saints' penalty, awarded for a Jason Barnett trip on Egil Osten-

est, Coventry City, Sheffield Wednesday and Wimhledon. The latter club turn out to have some intriguing characteristics. The Dons appear to be a top the list in terms of new fans, who represent nearly 25 per cent of the sample. They also have the highest proportion of season ticket holders who attended university or polytechnic -38.6 per cent, narrowly ahead of Manchester United.

ing points of the tie.
"If we had scored another had a few chances, they might have been dead and buried, but it wasn't to be," Beck said.
"I'm disappointed with the

ref's decision on the penalty. It was a very harsh decision and it turned the game. We were keeping them at bay and then suddenly, out of nothing, the penalty got them back in it. it's left me feeling very empty."

penalty decision way in which the replay, earned by Lincoln's 2-2 draw at the Dell three weeks ago, had slipped

away from his side was tempered by the knowledge that Southampton had been given a rough ride.

"We put the frighteners up them," Beck said. "We ve done Tuesday night.

Beck's Third Division side who knocked out Manchester City in the second round, were given a ninth-minute lead by Gareth Ainsworth and had extremely well to get this far and to be disappointed at getting Southampton in trouble with their direct style But just when

beat by a Premiership cluh. "We've had four Cup finals for little Lincoln and there are 23 other Third Division sides wbo would have loved to have been in our shoes. We're very proud of that."

. The Southampton manager, Graeme Souness, felt a mixture of pride and relief at the way his side stuck to their task after losing an early goal and trailing deep into the second-

"We didn't panic or change our style," Souness said. "We kept passing it and that's what got us the opportunities to get uck into it

'It would have been a difficult game for anyone coming here but I thought we handled

"The danger, when you play these sort of games, is that you end up playing like them. It was important that we continued trying to pass the ball and we did. dropped off a hit and we came into it more. When their keeper saved Matt's (Le Tissier) free-kick I thought 'maybe it's going to be their night' but once

we got the first goal I felt we'd go on to win it." Southampton's victory has earned them another potentially awkward lie away to Oxford

-Below 15 years 3.3% E 1.5% Female 12.1% -_ Male 87.9% Chinese 0.1%

1995-6 FA Premier League survey of fans: who is going, and what they think

Test of Steelmen's mettle is talk of the toon



ever, the town

Interviewed by BBC Radio Newcastle while on a fact-finding mission in the North-east last year, the Chancellor picked out the "thriving steelworks at Consett as a shining example of the region's industrial success. In fact, the last batch of steel was produced in Consett on 6 September, 1980.

The main thrust of the vain fight to avert closure of the British Steel works, and the loss of some \$,000 jobs, was that Consett. 14 miles south of Newcastle in north-west Durham, would become a ghost town. How fitting it is then that evidence that

suredly kicking will be found this fully, is not Saturday in Nottinghamshire, the quite the town same county in which the Chan-that time for- cellor's West Bridgford consame county in which the Changot. It is, how-stituency happens to lie.

Consett AFC, members of that Kenneth the Federation Brewery Northern League, have reached the first round proper of the FA Cup for only the second time in their 97-year history (they were hammered 5-0 at Doucaster in 1958). And their unexpected success has created such a stir Consett could indeed be a ghost town for one day this weekend.

That particular irony is not lost on Colin Carr, PE teacher at the town's Blackfyne Comprehensive and Consett's manager. Carr, who spent his playing days as a centre-half in the Wearside League with Annfield Plain, has become accustomed to home crowds barely touching the 100 mark: by all

Simon Turnbull visits the North-east club seeking glory in Saturday's FA Cup first round

times that many locals following the Steelmen, as they are still nicknamed, to Mansfield's Field Mill ground on Saturday.
"We used to get more," Carr

said, "until Newcastle started doing well. I'm only talking about maybe 20 or 30 people but for a little cluh like us that makes a hig difference. "The gates go down again on midweek nights when Newcas-

tle are live on television. Even on Saturdays there are places where you can watch the Norwegian television channel that shows Newcastle matches." As a lifelong Newcastle fan himself, Carr does not begrudge the hlack and white polarisation

of foothall viewing in and

around his home town. He is

been whipped up for a hulging one-off bandwagon. Stewart Wilkinson openly

confesses he is one of the locals jumping on board. His, however, is no ordinary bandwagon. It is the bus that was booked to carry the secretary and his fellow members of the Sunderland Supporters' Association's Consett branch to White Hart Lane on Saturday.

"We're even taking Newcas-tle supporters," he said. "They're selling their season tickets for their home match on Saturday to come to Mansfield instead.

"It's a case of the community rallying round to see our local team in the FA Cup. I know how hard the backroom staff at Consett have worked to keep accounts there could he 10 merely grateful that support has the club affoat with no spon-

sorship. This is their day. They those financially solid days deserve all the credit and sup-

need of financial support is evident from even a cursory glance at the crumbling red-hricked façade of Belle Vue Park, an inappropriately named home if ever there was one. Unfit to stage any replay (that will be at Durham City, if required), it could be described as one of those non-League outposts that time forgot.

The football club are still suffering from the loss of the town's former industrial giant. As Carr explained: "Each person who worked at the steelworks had an old sixpence deducted from their pay to help the football club. Eight thousand sixpences is a lot of money. Since then, we've struggled from week to week to make ends meet." One product of the club in

made it all the way from Belle port they get."

Vue to Wembley. Peter Noble
That Consett are a cluh in
was Swindon's No 10 the afsenal in the 1969 League Cup

> Win, lose or draw at Mansfield, the present-day Consett party have worked wonders to get this far. Boasting just one player with Football League experience, the Darlington old boy Mark Outterside, they have seen off higher-ranking non-League opponents, in Bishop Auctdand and Gateshead, in the last two rounds.

> And, Mansfield might care to note: the steely Consett defence have conceded just one goal in the eight matches they have played since setting out on the Wembley road in the preliminary round at St James' Park in August. St James' Park, Alnwick, that is.

McFarland returns with Cambridge Roy McFarland, the former yesterday and they were all very

England international, returned to managership yesterday when it was announced that he has taken charge of Cambridge United. McFarland, who was capped 28 times by England, has signed an 18-month contract and is already preparing the Third Division promotion challengers for Saturday's FA Cup firstround tie against Welling. McFarland had spells in

McFarland had spells in charge of Derby (twice) and Bradford before taking Bolton into the Premiership. He left Burnden Park eight mouths ago. At Camhridge, he succeeds Tommy Taylor who left the Abbey Stadium to take over at Leyton Orient last week. Reg Smart, the Camhridge chairman, revealed there were chairman, revealed there were

36 applications for the joh.

There were some interesting people among them, but we decided instead to approach three people we thought more suit-able. We interviewed them all believed to be interested.

impressive. I would recommend the other two whom it wouldn't be right to name to any club, but Roy McFarland stood out as the man for this job," he said.

Mike Newell's troubled career with Birmingham has hit a new low after he was sent-off while making a comehack from injury in the reserves. The for-mer England B international striker, who is on the transfer list at St Andrews after failing to settie following his £775,000 summer move from Blackburn, was dismissed for two bookahle of-fences during Tuesday night's clash with Everton at Hednesford.

The Birmingham manager, Trevor Francis, is set to continue his St Andrews clear-out by selling the former Leyton Orient and Plymouth midfielder Steve Castle, bought by Barry Fry for £225,000 in the 1995 close-season. Southend are

Strike plans recede

The threat of a strike by Nationwide League players is ex-pected to be officially ended today. It is understood the Professional Footballers' Association have agreed a deal with the Football League which gives the union £1.2m a year for five years.

The strike threat loomed in the wake of the League 8 recent £125m deal with BSkyB, when clubs voted to scrap the longrunning tradition of paying the PFA a 10 per cent levy from

television screening rights.
The PFA chief executive. Gordon Taylor, initially de-manded that the payment be restored, and players at all 72

willing to take strike action. The result of that ballot - believed to show that the players were overwhelmingly in favour of industrial action - was to be an-

nounced on 19 October. At the last minute, however, Taylor delayed making the results public. That brought the chance of more negotiations, and those

have clearly been successful. In addition to the up-front are nual payment - more than douhling last year's £560,000 PFA income figure - it is believed extra funding will be provided m the union for use on mutually agreed projects. But while it is unlikely clubs will rock the boat Nationwide League clubs were at this late stage, the deal still has balloted on whether they were to be ratified today.

Rusedski forced to fight by Fox

DERRICK WHYTE reports from Telford

Tim Henman and Greg Rused ski, seeded to meet in the men's singles final on Sunday, both had to win opening sets on a tiebreak before making progress in the Guardian Direct British National Champiunships at

Telford yesterday Rusedski beat James Fox, the 21-year-old Lincolnshire player, 7-6, 6-4 in the first round after surviving a set point in the tie-break while Henman defeated another 21-year-old. Nick Baglin of Cheshire, 7-6

6-0 in a second-round match. Fox, who has both a powerful service and a sound return of serve, did not go down eas-

Rusedski, breaking his rival in the eighth game to lead 5-3. looked to be on his way to a comfortable victory but Fux immediately broke back to 30

Then Fox, 0-40 down in the following game, saved four set points before making it 5-5, and, in the tie-hreaker, led 6-5 to hold a set point himself.

Rusedski missed his first serve in the following rally but came in behind his second to smash a winner and save the day before taking the next two points, clinching the set with a backhand volley.

Fox never stopped trying but Rusedski broke through in the seventh game of the second set and that one break was enough to allow him to go on to victory in 74 minutes

Later Rusedski said that, despite the score, he had never heen troubled, "James played 6-4, 8-6 tu Heather Matthews of awfully well on the big points."

he said, "hut I always felt I was in control.

"I wasn't worried when I missed my first serve when I was set point down. I just concentrated on getting the next one in and winning the point."

Henman had an easier victory, for though Baglin took the first set to a tie-break he was always under siege. Baglin, in fact, did well to save two break points in the fourth game, another in the eighth game and a set point in the 10th before fore-

ing a tie-break.

Then Baglin led 3-2 in the shoot-out with two services to come before Henman buckled down to win it 7-4.

The second set was all one way until Henman led 5-0. But in the sixth game, on Henman's service. Baglin had six break points and Henman had three match points before the Cheshire player hit a hackhand return out of court to end the contest after 75 minutes.

Henman praised Baglin's display. "He played a really good first set and I just squeezed home in the tie-breaker, But 1 shall have to focus more later

The only shock in the men's singles was provided by Paul Rohinson, the 22-year-old Northampton left-hander who beat fourth seeded Danny Sapsford, of Surrey, 4-6, 7-5, 6-4 in the first round.

The Florida-hased Megan Miller, the fourth seed from Yorkshire, and Emily Bond, the sixth seed from Gloucestershire, were both beaten.

Miller went down 7-5, 6-2 to the British junior champion. Louise Latimer, from Sutton Coldfield while Bond lost 2-6.

Basuki fired up

The Indonesian Yayuk Basuki. tria 6-2 6-2 in a first-round a late entry in the Advanta Championships, used her experience to beat the young Russian Anna Kournikova 6-4, 7-6 in their first-round match on Tuesday. The 15-year-old Kournikova. a former world No 1 junior. is ranked 56th, Basuki 33rd.

Basuki was inserted into the draw only after Jennifer I have a little more experience second round. than her." Basuki said. "She's young, and sometimes I don't think she can keep [hold of] her

In Tuesday's only match involving a seeded player, the No feated Judith Wiesner of Aus- American Lori McNeil.

Majoli got two early service hreaks in each set to earn a second-round meeting with the American Chanda Rubin. In another first-round match.

Lisa Raymond defeated her fellow American Gigi Fernandez 6-1, 3-6, 6-3. The 35thranked Raymond, who won her Capriati withdrew two days be- first WTA Tour title last month. fore the tournament started. "I will face the second seed, Condon't feel I played very well, but chita Martinez of Spain, in the

The world No 10, Brenda Schultz-McCarthy of the Netherlands, withdrew from the emotions. But she has a great tournament on Tuesday after aggravating a thigh strain suffered last week at the Bank of the West Classic in Oakland. Her place in 6. Iva Majoli of Croatia, de- the draw will be taken by the



Clare Wood puts her back into a service at the National Championships at Telford yesterday

Photograph: David Ashdown

WESTERN CONFERENCE

PACIFIC DIVISION

Rugby Union

South Africa gamed a comfortable 8919 over the Argentine provincial side,
Cuyo, on Tuesday – but at a cost. The
second-row forward Krynauw Otto could
be heading for home after he suffered
a suspected fractured jaw due to a
punch in an unpunished 62nd-manute
condent. South Africa pan at 15 beer

modent. South Africa ran in 15 thes, with the debutant left-winger Breyton

Under-21 62.
TOUR MATCH (Mendeux, Angl: Cays 17: 28, Senth Africa 159: 89. Cayso: Tries G Daz 2, P Lambot, Conversions I, Sperur 2, South Africa: Tries R Puz 2, B Pacifice 4, H Tromp, F Smith, W Fyse, S Bedder 2, P Bernert 2, I Thompson, A Smithen. Conversions F Smith 7.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: British Police 27 Birtish Five Service 27.
TIESTANYS LATE DOCUMENT.

Birtish Fire Service 27.
TUESINATS: International marksh (Lanadowne Road, Dublin): Ireland 25 Vessers Samoa 40 Tour match (Dearytrook, Dublin): Ireland A 28 South Ahrea A 26, Glub match: Oxford Universit, 17 Northampton 57.

EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE Super Division (Bridgmeth, Tuesday): England 4 Croscia 1 (Erg names 675; H Lower tost to 1 Bons 10-21 17-21; Lumas to A Agamos 21-15 21-15; A Hot to S Jumes 21-18; 21-13; Lomas and Held to Secretary

and Halt to Borns and Agenous 26-24 21-9; Lo-mas at Borns 22-20 20-22 21-17, (England qual-rity for semi-finals)

Table temis

De Glanville's pledge to run the ball

Rugby Union

CHRIS HEWITT

Phil de Glanville has used his first week as England captain to sell his vision of a fresh and invigorating brand of attacking rugby to his new charges. While he is not promising the earth, he is determined to move the national side away from the restrictive practices of set-piece obsession. Amen to that.

"I'm not going to sit here and say that we will run the ball all the time," he said after yester-day's run-oul at Bisham Abbey. Kicking is part of the game and when we consider the time to be right, we'll kick. But we will also play with a full range of options and, in general, my philosophy will be to attack with ball in hand.

"It's not enough for me to pledge myself to that philosophy. It must be carried forward by the whole team, which is why called everyone together immediately on being appointed and asked anyone who did not feel comfortable with my ideas to speak up straight away. Everyone needs to be committed to this."

England play Italy on Saturday week in the first of seven matches this season, and even though the Bath centre will be celebrating his first game in charge, it is not certain that he will be the first man on to the field. Jason Leonard will be winning his 50th cap and given that the Twickenham tunnel is hardly wide enough to fit both men side by side, some-

one will have to give way. Understandably, Glanville has not wasted too much time thinking about the issuc; in the frenzied aftermath of his appointment last week, he has barely had a chance to regather his wits. But he has made a point of speaking at length with

his predecessor, Will Carling. "We've talked on a couple of occasions and he's tried to warn me away from some of the potential pitfalls involved in the job. But I'm confident of adapting to the situation. The fame thing is only a problem if you let it be-come one."

Four England first choices failed to make it on to the training field yesterday. Martin Johnson, the Leicester lock, cried off with a virus while two loose forwards, Tim Rodber and Ben Clarke, rested leg injuries. Mark Regan, the Bristol booker, had a cast removed from his damaged right thumb on Tuesday and will not test it in anger until his club's second-string match with London Scottish at the weekend. Phil Greening of Gloucester stands by.

Emyr Lewis will miss Cardiff's European Cup quarter-final against Bath on Sat-urday. The Welsh back-row forward's broken finger has not

Low-key Campese baffled by Connacht

IAN GORDON

Connacht Australia

reports from Galway

David Campese produced little to support his claims for a Test place yesterday as the tourists mounted a forceful recovery against Connacht. The Irish provincial side led

12-7 at the interval and were sensing a famous victory when Eric Elwood's fifth penalty early in the second half gave them an eight-point lead. But Australia rallied with four late tries and ran out comfortable winners in the first game of the Irish leg of their tour.

Campese had a quiet afternoon attempting to regain his Test place for the match against Ireland on Saturday week to add to his 100 caps. A deft piece by wing was mobbed at the fi-nal whistle by a crowd of youngsters in what was probably his last appearance at Galway's Sports Ground on the

west coast of Ireland. George Cregan sparked Australia's comeback when he

break by Owen Finegan with a try. Cregan scored again when he darted over from close range after Finegan had been held up as Australia increased the pres-sure on the Connacht forwards. Finegan then ran over himself to make the game safe for the

While that brought a measure of relief and joy to the Australians, the game produced a moment of hilarity that belonged to Connacht when they scored a late consolation try.

The entire Connacht team, apart from the thrower and the scrum-half, formed a line-out close to the visitors' line. The lock, Graham Heaslip, won the hall and as the whole team drove on, it was fellow second row Shane Leahy who was credited with the try.

"I have never ever seen anything like that," said a bemused of handling only hinted at the Campose after the match. "It Campo of old. Yet the Wallacertamly gave the Irish and the Campese after the match. "It crowd a hit of fun."

The Australians had the last laugh, however, as Alistair Murdoch ghosted through the defence to bring up the fifth try in the final seconds.

Connecht: Tries Leahy; Penalties Elwood 5. Australia: Tries: Cregan 2, Finegan, Govin, Murtoch; Conversions T Wallace 3; Penaldiace 2. was rewarded for supporting a

Benn misses Board hearing

Boxing

Nigel Benn laifed to appear before the British Loxing Board of Control vesterday to be questioned over an alleged nightclub incidem in London. But he is unlikely to face any action because he confirmed his retirement after Saturday's defeat by Steve Collins.

The Board admitted they no longer have jurisdiction over Benn, whose corner pulled him out of his world super-mid-(rdleweight title tight at the end of the soah round. The night-club If incident involved the 32-year-old and an alleged as suit, but there has been no police prosecution

Benn would almost certainly be asked to appear again if he another capacity as a manager

AVON INSURANCE COMMINATION First Division: Warracter 2 (1 to 5) ITALIAN CUP Quarter-final first leng Chemic-rese 1 (5) specie 23; Devenu 3 (4) person

WORLD CUP Occasio Zone first round: Poly-

COCA-COLA CUP Third-round repLays: Laviora

1 (Septembri 9) South motion 3 (Virginia) per 75, thatsen 64, Berlien ch 90) to 1 (1 Clock well of 2) (Lenterto 190) for seeing the second of 2) (Lenterto 190) for the first control of 2) (Lenterto 190) for the 2) (Lente

MATCHWIDE POOTBALL LEAGUE First Dis-sion Burton, 2017-as, 55 Automotived, Ner-dre 72, former 2, forman 73, Second Division Street Lett, 2 (Share 127), Seek 73, Budol Friedd 0

Buctof Foxes 9

RCS LEAGUE Promier Distance Science Road 0 Years 2 Header 2 Information 0. Feet and/or 2 Science 12 Headers 2 Group 2 Foxes 1 Headers Maken 8 Headers 0 Bookston Water 8 Headers 0 Bookston 1 Headers 2 Buckers 0 Leagues 2 Buckers 0.

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UNBOND LEAGUE Promier Division: Burew.
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Eastwood form O Handard Team 1; Fisched U
Drollader O; Getherlen 2 Germa 1; Warning
ton 1 Whether Ed. O

Tuesday

SPORTING DIGEST **Gonda walks out on Derby**

The depression over Derhy reaching cyclonic proportions. Mike Gonda, the team's leading three-point shooter, walked out on the Budweiser League club this week to repoin his wife and take a job in America, writes Richard Taylor. Gonda's desertion follows

the hurried early season transatfantic departure of another American, Rod teading Gregoire. Derbyshire police have issued a warrant for his arrest after Gregoire failed to appear in

court last neck to answer charges of assault and driving offences. Gregoire is believed to be in the ocinity of New Orleans.

Tim Lascelles, the English stalwart whose three-point shooting should make him an

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Promor Divisions Section 3 McCommon Mediand Debalons for sorth 3 Reline 1 Southern Divisions Concern 2 Instance 1 Dr Martens Cup Best round second legs (Lemm Lemm Beauth AFC 1975 5 2)

Angel and TROPHY Second-round replayed America 2 Firsts, Gotte 1, not remains 3 Chef-ter 1; Testing 4 Michani 1 Furthers 3, Shep-ched 0 Stocksbrane Pres 1

SUN LIFE IRISH GOLD CUP Final: Laheld 1

CARLES OF WALES Gibert Cup second round first log Ban to Cr. 5 Carner Cups of Barry C Bally Carles Hander C Fr. 40 Ren-

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE First Divisions Countries Of Particle 2: South Shelds 1 Seylam Feet Star 1.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pressions to be that rounds before 2 Forumeton Main 1; Northal 4 Lours P. Mainry Main 2 Spelled 1, Ossett Town & Hockley B, ronding

America I Brigg 3.

RWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Director:
Harborh O Warbors O Marca & Falestrom 3, Newmand 3 Bar Jan 1 S. Sobor, Warborson O Learner 3, 1 Low O Federation 1, Managembre O Harmach & Parketton O.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE FIRST DIM-

sion: Attendo Colleges 2 Supresum 2 East-word Harter 1 Restondary Utd 0, Booth 3 Morally 1

UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE FIRST DIVI-

sione Bugges HA 8 Mée Cali O Lamme, Sports 1 Program 2 Pagtorn 1 Whitchash 4, Pasce-haven & Telecombo O Nathocks 2: Southweld 1 Trees Bugges 1

Amazeur 1 Braze 3

THE FORT BALLET THE SULTS

automatic alternative to Gonda, faced disciplinary action from the club after walking straight off court to the dressing-room when he was substituted at Leicester City Riders last week The coach, Jeff Jones, also

has to fight a ban from next

week's tixture against Crystal Palace, for comments alleged to have been made to game officials atter Derby's defeat against Chester lets as he hand ed them a video of the match. Gonda, who qualified as English after being born at USAF Lakenheath in Suffolk. shocked Jones with his decision. "We lust narrowly at Thames Valley in the Cup and at Leices ter in the Trophy and looked like we were getting back on

track. Then this. "It seems every time we start getting it together, something else smacks us in the face."

UNLSPORT UNITED COUNTRY LEAGUE Premier Division: Cogenhoe 3 Stamford 2

Premier Division: Cogenhoe 3 Stamford 2: Ford Sports O Northampton Sportner 2, Long Backb, 1 Wellinghorough O; Mimees Black-sone 5 Nobecoch O, Leegao Cup first round: Desborough 2 Bugbrooke 1, 5t Noots 3 Whit worth: 1

SCREWFOX DIRECT LEAGUE Presider Divi

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Deal 3 Hathe 1: Favorsham 5 Furness 1: Whitable 0 Can-

2: Favorsham 5 Furnass 1: Westerdoor of each ferbury 1
PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division; Simmingham 0 Eventum 0. (fidham 0 Overb, 0. Socional Division: Rotherham 4 Mansfeld 3 Society 1 Bradford On 1.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Militarii 1 Arsenal 1. West Nam 2 Overbland

FA YOUTH CUP First round: Ureds : Shaffield Wednesday 2: Blackburn 3 Black Urol 1: Hernford 1 Luton 3

t/col 1; Herrford 1 Luton 3 WORLD CUP South American zone (Son-tiago): Chile 1 (Solas 59) Urugua; 0.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Nantes 2 Da Rocha 33. T'Doram 69: Nancy 0.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Feyenoord 1 (Van Brockings) 53 NAC Breda 0; Heoretween 2 Johnsson OJ, 62/ De Graatschap Doctochem

1 fromman of a Common-final st Energy Cot-leus O St Pauli O Leet: Crittus won 5-4 on parable to Barem Munch 3 theremann 45, 90. Clegs St Works Bornen 1 -Bode 12). ITALIAN CUP Quartor-final first leg. Main 1 (Suggo 20). Scond 1 (Ambrosela 10).

season as Europe's top 100 metres runner for the 11th consecutive year. Prime other British attacks led the 1996 rankings: Roger Black (400m), Jonathan Edwards (Imple Jump) and Denise Lewis (heptathlon). Seventeen others were in the top five with Mark Richardson, January Boulch, Iwan Thomas and Dulame La-dejo loflowing Black for a clean sweep in the one-lap event.

Michael Johnson said vesterday that he will race Donovan Bailes for the "world's lastest human." Lite over 150 metess on 31 Ma, in Toronta, Johnson won gold medals at the Atlanta Olympics in both the 200 and 400 metres. He shattered me 200 and 400 merss, he shattered the world record in the 200 merss with a title of 19.32 seconds, eclipsing his own record of 19.66 set during the US Olympic Trials, Bakey wor the 100 metres in a world-record time of 9.84 seconds at the Games.

Basketball Shaquille O'Neal claimed 34 points and

Is rebounds and Nick Van Erel scored eight of his 29 points in double over-time as the Los Angeles Lakers dear the Houston Rockets their first defeat of the season, 126-115, in NBA action. on fuesday. The defending champion, the Chicago Bulls, are now the NBA's only undefeated team with a 7-0

record.
MBA: 44, m. 97 Develond 83, Marin 105
Charlotte 97: Phacketcha 101 Aris 155, 97;
Debrut 92 Viribrington 79; LA Lakers 126
Houston 115 cerr Marinesina 100; Porland
97: Datte 103 Induria 82; Micause 95;
Prient 89; in Swift 121 Galon Sare 107;
Los Angeles Chopers 99 Vanctuzer 92 rot.

Boxing

Roben McCracken, the Commonwealth modeweight champion, extended what is presently the longest 100 per cent record or British bosing with a points vic-tory over the American, Glen Odem, at lamson, the match umpire. Dudley form Hall on Juesday right. The ice hockey Benningham-based McCracken secured the 29th can of his professional career

with a 10-round success. PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION (Dudgey Form Hall): 10-rd middleweight: R Nachadan Ipimarjanni at Goden (Usp. pts. 8-rd weiserweight: S Nachaden -Bornarjanni at O Abgeburg, Wadon): ats. 6-rd weiterweight: Samuels (Nemport) of M Roman (Berr P. Schwert, Numbert of M. Agriculturalistic P. Neghungste (Apront) bi D. Kehoe (Milhama pissen) bi D. Kehoe (Milhama pissen) bi M. Smith (Seam early bis and endeament) bit M. Smith (Seam early bit M. Smith) bit M. Smith

Cricket SINGER CHAMPIONS TROPHY (Sheriet), UAE): New Zealand 192 50 overs AC Partic 18, L.N. German 52, Wager Yound S-441; Pal-Islan 196 for 6 NS. 3 overs Socied Armor 5-1.

t

TRANSFER: John Sheridan Imatfielden Shel-

Golf

Tuesday's opening round of the Mas-terCard PGA Grand Slam was washed out by heavy rain which flooded burnlers and saturated the Popu Bay Resort golf course in Hawaii. The two-day, 36-hole, event leatures an elite field of this year's even learnings an enterted of this year's four major championship winners; Nick Faldo (Masters), Steve Jones (US Openi, Tom Lehman (The Open) and Mark Brooks (PGA). "Our plan ngh) now to begin Wednesday and get in as many holes as possible," Julius Mason, a spokesman for the PGA of Amenca, said, "If we have to use Thursday to finish, we will, Our goal is still to play a 33-hole event."

3G-hole event.

ERROPEAN SENDING TOUR Qualifying school ERROPEAN Sendin Landing first-round scores (68 or Int unless stated; top 20 earn cards for 1979 neamon): 87 JR Deckn 1951, 68 9 kimne (US), 68 9 Whrte: A Bardia (US), 70 R Webster, R Stem 1951, ha Weong Cho 15 Pan, J Carl (US), 72 D Spencer (US), A Brooks, J Vacomu (Sen, A Wheston, H Jackson, J Borreson (Sen, 72 A Gaudi, J Externode (US), G Graz, S Pratt (US), H Banneman, B Browne, B Carler, 1 Richardon, R Stafford (US), & Hanqued (US), C Glorupe (US), J Rooch (Aus).

Kalbe Takher, Cannock's captain and the Great Britain centre-half, has been sus-pended for 16 days from 25 Novempended for 16 days from 25 November. The disciplinary action has been taken by the Midlands Hockey Association following an incident after Cannock's National League game with East Gristead on 12 October, when it was reported that he swore at Hamish

NHL: Nev: Jersey 3 Washington 2 foll: Pursburgh 3 Buffalo 0; Harrford 4 San

| Control | Cont ATLANTIC DIVISION

ECHNIS
GUARDIAN DIRECT BROTISH NATIONAL CHAMPHONSHIPS (Tetford): Mee's singless first round: G Rucedon (unattached) by 1 For (Unics) 7-6 6-4; P Robinson (Northants) by D Soppion (Sumoy) 4-6 7-5 6-4, Beroom forumet C Wilayson (Herits 2 loth) by A Parmer (Horist 6-3 6-3; T Herman, 10/donoshine) by N Bagion (Chestrue) 7-6 6-0; N Goald (Aron) by C Boech-or (Herit) 7-5 7-8, J Doligado (Warmeles) by A Foster (Statts) 7-5 4-6 6-3, Women's singless second round: S Smith (Esso) by L Jets, (Oxford 6-1 6-3; L Lattier (Warmeles) by M Meter (Yorks) 7-5 6-2; L Ahl (Devon) by L Woodroffs (Surrey) 6-3 6-2; C Tayar (Odorffs by 1 Wond (Durham & Queenand) 2-6 6-4 6-2; I Wood (Mid-dise) by L Herbort (Herits) 6-1, 6-3; Wood (Mid-dise) by L Herbort (Herits) 6-1, 6-3; Wood (Mid-dise) by L Herbort (Herits) 6-1, 6-3; C Wood (Sussize) 1 H. Routsznota (Beris) 6-2 6-2; Middlows, (Beris) 6-2 6-2; Middlows, (Beris) 6-1, 6-3; C Mond (Sussize) 2-6 8-4 8-6. J Pulm (Sussize) by J Choudhay (Cambs)

ADVANTA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSKIP (PNB adolphia) Find remoted by adelphia Pirst round: I Majoh (Cros.) tr.) Wice-nor (Aut.) 6-2 6-2; Y Basufu (Indon) br. A Koumkose (Rus.) 6-4 7-6; L Raymond (US) br. G Fernandez (US) 6-1 3-6 6-3.

sports letters

Punishment fits Giddins' crime

From: Mr T Woolfitt Sir: I would like to comment in response to the letter by Michael Prentice (7 November) concerning the ban suffered by Ed Giddins in response to his alleged cocaine taking.

Mr Prentice argues that

what he did was to himself alone, and has no impact on his performance. Would Mr Prentice then argue that Paul Cascoigne, reviled by the press and media alike for his alleged wife-beating, since his wife has not pressed charges, and since be was almost certainly not beating her to improve his performance, should not be the subject of any criticism for

what he does in his private life? Cocaine is a class A drug. Taking it, possessing h or distribut-ing it are all illegal. Buying it allows the dealers and importers to continue to ply their trade, destroying people's lives, if peo-ple in the public eye are allowed to continue doing what they want, where are our role-models going to come from? What he does in his own

time is his own business. However, when the two are combined, and when he reaches the public eye, he becomes a role-model and an example. As such, in my opinion, he must be made an example of. Yours faithfully

Gascoigne cannot win

London -

From: Mr J Lewis Sir. I would like to take issue with Ian Ridley's assessment of Paul Gascoigne's display for England in the recent game against Georgia in Toilisi (Gascoigne's Light Fading Past, 10 November).

whether he should have been playing at all, Gascoigne played his part in an impressive team performance. As Mr Ridley points out, he had a hand in both goals and rarely lost rossession. To suggest the result was achieved "despite Gascoigne and not because of him" is harsh in the extreme and surely panders to the kind of black and white journalism so well practised by the tabloids. Either

he's brilliant or he's rubbish. The fact that he is no longer the player he was is irrelevant. He is still a fine player and Glenn Hoddle had every reason to be happy with him.

In a sense Gascoigne cannot win. If he tries to be the player he once was, he is criticised, as he was after the Poland match, for being overamhitious. But if he plays a more sober game, he is attacked for not being the player he once was. Perhaps it is no wonder his private life is in such a state of confusion. Yours earnestly

JEFFREY LEWIS Handsworth, Birmingham

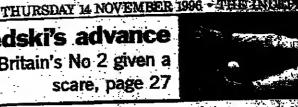
Moving the goalposts

From Mr L Breimer

Sir: Seeing that the average male Briton has grown five inches since 1900, let the FA increase the internal measurement of the goal for senior matches by at least the same for the crossbar and each of the uprights, unless they can show that the average height of goalkeepers has remained constant. LARS BREIMER

Richmond, Surrey Letters should be marked "For Publication" and should contain daytime and evening phone munbers. They should be sent to Sports Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E145DL Letters mizy be short-Leaving aside the issue of ened for reasons of space.

مكذا من الأصل



£3m 'British Bulldog' eyed by Rangers

Football

The Chilean striker Sebastian Rozental, who goes by the nickname of "the British Bulldog". could be on his way from Santiago to Glasgow for Em and a new career in Scottisb

football with Rangers. Walter Smith and his assistant. Archie Knox. met the 20year-old from Universidad Catolica in Sandago after he im-pressed in a World Cup qualifier against Uruguay on

Tuesday night.
Rozental should be able to obtain a work permit as he plans to apply for British citizenship through his English grandparents. He speaks perfect Eng-

lish and has turned down approaches from Italy because he wants to play in Britain.

Rozental has asked for a four-year contract and Rangers have tabled their offer, which falls short of the player's £4m valuation but should still be enough to prise him from South

Middlesbrough's embarrass-ment over the intentions and whereabouts of Emerson increased yesterday when the disenchanted Brazilian midfielder failed to rcturn to Teesside after the Premiership hreak.

The club put on a brave face, insisting that the £4m summer signing would be back in Mid-dlesbrough after his Brazil holiday in time for training today.

Bosnich hopes for lenient treatment

Mark Bosnich will be hoping that a Football Association disciplinary commission view his Hitler-style salute in the spirit he says it was intended. The Aston Villa goalkeeper will appear before the three-man commission inmorrow morning at Lancaster Gate charged with misconduct for his gesture towards Tottenham fans in the second half of the game at White Hart Lane last month.

The FA could accept Bosnich's explanation that his salute, which upset Tottenham supporters many of whom are Jewish, was just a silly misguided prank and give the Australian a gentle rap over the knuckles and a "don't do it again" warning. Alternatively, the commis-sion may feel that they need to make an example of a situation which in terms of the worst seenario could have provoked crowd trouble and hand out a heavy fine or even suspension. future conduct.

No. 3144. Thursday 14 Novemb

Place for cutting and getting first slice of bread with jam

- Henry's tucking in! (8-5)
to Me, with lump putsing, directed to be beaten (9)
11 Majority around island af-

13 It's a singular deluge that's this scrappy! (3-3-3)

drug's stolen (3, 4)
to A Mahler broadcast from a

20 Exotic set of instruments something played, by the
way (not English) (7)
21 Non-existent meal? (4, 5)

23 Name adopted by girls re-torting in colloquial speech (5)

18 Girl heading off to embrace 6 the men in The country (7)

12 Right, I'm breaking into church - producing this? (5) 2

fected by water (5)

14 Casual attack in which

Dutch town (7)

In the meantime, whatever the outcome of the hearing. Bosnich must wait to see if the police, who received complaints from Tottenham fans over the incident, are to take action after a report was submitted last week to the Crown Prosecution Service. A police spokesperson did admit that it could be several weeks before it is known whether the Crown Prosecution Service will decide to press

Portsmouth's manager, Terry Fenwick, was yesterday fined £500 by the FA after admitting his part in a verbal attack on the referee Martin Bodenham. Ferwick spoke to the Cornwallbased Bodenham in the Fratton Park tunnel after his team drew 1-1 with Wimbledon to go out of the Coca-Cola Cup in September. Ferwick offered a plea io mitigation, but in addition to the fine was warned about his

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

"We arranged Emerson's flight back from Brazil and are confident be will be here," Dave Allan, a club spokesman said.

The Boro manager, Bryan Robson, who returned yesterday from a boliday in Tenerife. could only state the obvious that Emerson must bonour his four-year contract.

"I have in speak to a few people about newspaper reports. I want to find out what is the truth and what is not," he said. "Emerson will not be leaving the club. In fact no one is leaving unless I decide it is in our best interests. I have the full backing of the chairman over

He then went on to dismiss speculation of a hid by Barcelona for Emerson.

"Bobby Robson has not contacted me from Barcelona or left messages." he said. "If Bobby wanted one of my players he would contact me direct. I know Bobby well from our England days. He is not the type to go behind my hack.

There has been a lot of speculation on my players in newspapers and I want to get behind it all. I want to know the truth and what is not the truth."

Jamie Pollock is heading back to England after his move Middleshrough to Osasuna collapsed. A series of problems has left him without pay for more than a month and kicking his heels. Pollock is now likely to be heading for Bolton, who are discussing a deal with both Osasuna and Middlesbrough that could work out at around £400,000.

Tomas Brolin's loan move from Leeds to Sampdoria until the end of the season has faltered because of doubts over the Swede's fitness. The Serie A club's doctors have ruled Brolin's ankle injury is too serious for any move to go ahead in the near future.

More than one theatre

15 Difficult ship, one refusing to diverge from chosen course (4-5)

17 Pronunciation defect in all

alto trills (9)

19 Girl to show evidence of ex-

istence in chronicle (7)
Cood girl and man taken up from Hell (7)
Be glum, turning up around end of races - bere? (5)
Brief attempt to secure runs

worker shows astonishment

about a star turning up (5,

Sky in pay-per-view talks. page 20



The England captain, Phil de Glanville, practises his handling skills in training at Bisham Abbey yesterday . Photograph: Graham Chadwick/Alisport

Ulster lose exiles for Australian test

Rugby Union

Ulster will be without two of their internationals, Jeremy Davidson and David Humpbreys, for their meeting with Australia in Belfast on Saturday. The London Irish duo arc both required for their club's crucial Courage League One game against Wasps on the same day.

However, this double blow is partially softened by the recall of the former Scotland A stand-off. Stuart Laing. He has impressed this season with his goalkicking while playing as a stand-in for Humphreys. Gary Longwell, a seasoned veteran, returns to the second row in place of Davidson and will partner the Irish international Paddy Johns, who has been released by Saracens.

er capped players as well as Johns - the centres Mark Mc-Call and Maurice Field, Denis McBride, who at flanker will captain Ulster, and the right wing James Topping, who made his Ireland debut in the shock ly important.

defeat by Westero Samoa on Tuesday night. Saracens, in the guise of Michael Lynagh's XV, field six internationals for their match against the touring Australian side Queensland at Enfield on Sunday. Lynagh, who was capped 72 times from Queensland and scored a world record 911 points, will lead the Londoners when they face his for-

mer state side. Philippe Sella, Kyran Bracken, Tony Daly, Paul Wallace and Tony Copsey are also on parade for a game the Saracens coaching director, Mark Evans, views as extreme-

"When you play a team as good as Queensland, the least you owe them is to put out the strongest available side. It would have been an insult for us to do otherwise," Evans said. This is possibly the last opportunity for our guys to play

together before we get hack to league and cup matters." Queensland's British tour in-

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December against England A. France's Patrick Thomas will Cardiff and Bath at Cardiffs Arms Park. referee the Heineken Euro-England's Brian Cam will be in charge for Sun ay pean Cup quarter-final between Dax and Toulouse at Parc Muquarter-final at Brive, where nicipal des Sports on Saturday. The official, who was in charge of last Saturday's international between Scotland and Australia at Murrayfield, will make it an all-French affair as

Toulouse continue their de-fence of the trophy. The Weish referee Clayton Thomas will control the all-England contest between Leicester and Harlequins at Welford Road, with the Irisbcludes fixtures with English di-visional sides, concluding on 13 the Anglo-Welsh game between mnn Gordon Black officiating

Llanelli will be hidding to take the French chuh's 100 per cent record in the touroament and claim a place in the last four Brive are the bookmakers

favourites to win the cup. The BBC have altered th running order of Grandstand on Saturday to include live rugb union with second-half coverage of Leicester v Harlequins quar ter-final at 3.45.

DILSTER (v Australia, Saturday): R Morrog J Topong, M Raid, M McCal, J Currangter S Lang, S Matchett; R Mackey, S Roches, Lesie, G Longwell, P Johns, S Duncen, S McKi htty, II McRide (copt). Reptacementur. R m win, A Aday, J Patterson, R Wilson, R McTurleise, M Deal.

De Gianville's pledge

A BUNCH OF FLOWERS

- ingenious! (5) 25 Store of ammunition - it's

abandoned by brigand or thrown around position on

ground (9)
26 Item of furniture redesigned

DOWN

Clumsy fellow made this in-

eptly (3-6) Annoy woman with exercis-

es (5) Wrong - one town closing

down yard is wrong (7) Buy your own tulips! (2, 5]

Plant producing yellow oint-ment? (5, 4)

Sounded unhappy about journey, we hear (5) High-level station – odds ou

one place where trains ar-rive? (5, 8)

at Slumberland (8, 5)





The MACALLAN IS INSPIRATIONALLY INFESED WITH COSTLY PROMISE' BARLEY TO GREATE THE TIMELESS MASTERPIECE THAT IS THE MALT

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